



Policy Updates

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Fraud Hotline: 1-866-5-FRAUD-4 or 1-866-537-2834 | P.O. Box 12847 | Austin, TX 78711
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Reimbursement Rates

<https://squaremeals.org/Programs/National-School-Lunch-Program/Reimbursement-Rates>

July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

Lunch

- Paid - \$0.45
- Reduced - \$4.36
- Free - \$4.76

Breakfast

- Paid - \$0.42
- Reduced - \$2.24
- Free - \$2.54

After School Care Program

- Paid - \$0.12
- Reduced - \$0.65
- Free - \$1.30

Minimum Value of Donated Foods (Cash-in-Lieu)

- \$0.3200/meal

Adjusted NSLP Rate of Assistance: \$0.47, up 2 cents from SY 2025-2026



Buy American

➤ Buy American

- 10% cap on non-domestic purchases in SYs 2025-26 through 2027-28
- 8% cap beginning SY 2028-2029
- 5% cap beginning SY 2031-2032

➤ Current Guidance

- No findings unless there is NO tracking mechanism
- More guidance coming soon via SNP Supplemental Guidance document
- Accommodations available for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027

Buy American Survey

➤ Captures:

- If 10% threshold exceeded in SY 25-26
- Actions and timelines for coming into compliance
- Additional Buy American information/challenges that will inform future guidance and feedback to USDA

➤ **NOT an accommodation request, BUT:**

- Accommodations granted for SY 25-26 during AR based on survey information

➤ **Completion requirements:**

- Mandatory for SFAs on SY 26-27 review schedule
- Recommended for ALL SFAs
- Survey capturing SY 26-27 data issued next year
- Emailed and posted to SquareMeals

➤ **More to come in September!**





Resources for Procuring Local Foods in School Year 2026-2027

USDA Memo TA 01-2026

Provides links to

- Tools and technical assistance
- Policy memos and regulations
- Local procurement fact sheets

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/guidance-documents/fna.harvestToHallways-resourcesProcuringLocalSY2026-27.pdf>

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2. fax:

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3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

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