

# Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards

A collaboration between USDA Food and Nutrition & Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK)

This recognition award will:

- Celebrate the efforts of School Food Authorities (SFA) in improving the nutritional quality of their meals.
- Spotlight innovative practices, student and community engagement activities, and strategies that align meals with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

## Key Details

- June 30, 2023 – Application Opens
- June 30, 2025 – Application Closes
- 8 awards to potentially apply for
- Must obtain a Letter of Support from TDA

## Types of Recognition

- National and Local Recognition
- Awardee Toolkit
- Travel Stipend to attend a national Healthy Meals Summit

### Small and/or Rural SFA Breakfast Trailblazer

School breakfast can be the foundation to student success. The Small and/or Rural SFA Breakfast Trailblazer improves the nutritional quality of their school breakfast menus meeting at least four (4) specific criteria.



Small changes in your menu can shake big flavors and get you to your target. The Small and/or Rural Lunch Trailblazer improves the nutritional quality of their school lunch menus meeting at least four (4) specific criteria.

### Small and/or Rural SFA Lunch Trailblazer



### Breakfast Trailblazer

School breakfast can be the foundation to student success. The Breakfast Trailblazer fuels a student's day by providing a nutritious breakfast with limited added sugars.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

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Food and Nutrition Division  
Nutrition Assistance Programs

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www.SquareMeals.org



Small changes in your menu can shake up big flavors and get you to your target. The Lunch Trailblazer provides school lunches that meet Healthy Meals Incentives weekly sodium limits and implements student engagement techniques.

## Lunch Trailblazer

## Innovative School Lunch Makeover

The Innovative School Lunch Makeover improves the nutritional quality of a popular school lunch meal for at least one grade group, while maintaining student acceptance. The makeover meal must meet all meal pattern requirements.



Innovation in the Preparation of School Meals entails the implementation of meal service of at least three (3) new menu items (entrees or sides) prepared from scratch using a local agricultural product or USDA food.

## Lunch Innovation in the Preparation of School Meals

## Innovation in Nutrition Education

Innovation in Nutrition Education involves the implementation of nutrition education activities that make classroom, cafeteria, community, and home connections for students and parents/guardians.



Innovation in the Cultural Diversity of School Meals entails collaborating with students and/or the community to offer nutritious school meal menu options that reflect the cultures of students, while meeting weekly meal pattern requirements.

## Innovation in the Cultural Diversity of School Meals



To learn more about each award criteria and how to apply, scan the QR code or visit:

[www.healthymealsincentives.org/recognition-awards/](http://www.healthymealsincentives.org/recognition-awards/)



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