

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1374

By: Reinhardt

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to school nutrition; defining terms; requiring certain federal funds to be used to provide free school meals to qualifying students; prohibiting schools from charging qualifying students for reduced-price meals; allowing disbursement of funds in certain circumstances; allowing schools to use other authorized funds to provide free meals to qualifying students in certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of Education to electronically submit certain report; providing contents of report; requiring certain office to conduct certain audit of child nutrition programs; requiring electronic submission of certain audit findings; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-119.2 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1 1. "Child nutrition program" includes the following as
2 established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act,
3 42 U.S.C., 1751 et seq.:

4 a. the National School Lunch Program, or

5 b. the School Breakfast Program; and

6 2. "Qualifying student" means a student in kindergarten through
7 twelfth grade who is enrolled in a public school in this state and
8 who is eligible for receipt of a reduced-price meal in a child
9 nutrition program.

10 B. Federal funds appropriated to the State Department of
11 Education for a child nutrition program shall be used to provide
12 school breakfasts and lunches at no cost to each qualifying student.

13 C. A public school that serves a school breakfast or a school
14 lunch as part of a child nutrition program shall not charge a
15 qualifying student a reduced-price co-payment for a school breakfast
16 or a school lunch.

17 D. 1. If necessary to comply with the requirements of this
18 section, the Department shall provide funds that have been disbursed
19 to the Department from the federal government for purposes of
20 funding child nutrition programs in each public school that serves a
21 school breakfast or a school lunch as part of a child nutrition
22 program to cover the cost of eliminating reduced-price co-payments
23 as required by subsection C of this section.

1 2. If federal funds appropriated to the Department for a child
2 nutrition program are insufficient to provide a school breakfast or
3 a school lunch at no cost pursuant paragraph 1 of this subsection,
4 the Department shall use funds as authorized by law to provide a
5 school breakfast or a school lunch not initially covered by federal
6 funds under subsection B of this section or other funds as
7 authorized by law.

8 E. Annually by November 15, the State Department of Education
9 shall electronically submit a report to the Legislature with an
10 overview of each child nutrition program offered in public schools.
11 The report shall include without limitation:

12 1. The procedure for applying for free or reduced-price meals
13 in public schools; and

14 2. The number of students who:

- 15 a. apply for free or reduced-price meals,
- 16 b. are accepted to receive free or reduced-price meals,
- 17 c. are denied from receiving free or reduced-price meals,
- 18 and
- 19 d. automatically qualify for free or reduced-price meals
20 based on federal eligibility requirements.

21 F. The Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency shall audit
22 the State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs by
23 December 15, 2026, and electronically report the audit findings to
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1 the Legislature. The audit shall determine whether each public
2 school's participation in a child nutrition program effectively:

3 1. Serves the intent of the Legislature to expand students'
4 access to free meals in public schools; and

5 2. Complies with federal and state laws and rules.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

7 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
8 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
9 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
10 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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