# SNP Memo #2024-2025-30


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: September 26, 2024

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

FROM: Sandra C. Curwood, PhD, RDN, ***Sandy***

## SUBJECT: Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs

The Virginia Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (VODE-SCNP), would like to alert school and community nutrition program sponsors of the five provisions included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (PL 118-42) that impact the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

### Recommended Action

Review the following five provisions that are highlighted in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy memo [SP 18-2024, CACFP 06-2024, SFSP 11-2024](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/appropriations-act-2024-effect), *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs*.

* **Crediting of Vegetables at Breakfast**: School food authorities (SFAs) participating in the SBP may credit any vegetable offered in place of fruit without including vegetables from other subgroups in the weekly menus. Please note that the vegetables at breakfast provision in the final rule,[*Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/25/2024-08098/child-nutrition-programs-meal-patterns-consistent-with-the-2020-2025-dietary-guidelines-for)*,* is not fully consistent with the 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act. However, based on the Appropriations Act, schools may offer any vegetable in place of fruit at breakfast for school year (SY) 2024–2025 only.
* **Prohibition on the Use of Chicken and Seafood from China**: Child Nutrition Program funds may not be used to procure raw or processed poultry or seafood products from the People’s Republic of China. This legislation is an extension of the existing prohibition outlined in the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act.
* **Compliance with Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Requirements**: SFAs that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, are required to establish a price for paid lunches. [SCNP Director’s Memo #2023-2024-79](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/54494/638518003307330000) discussed the PLE requirements for SY 2024–2025.
* **Required Inclusion of Low-fat or Fat-free Flavored Milk in Meal Patterns**: USDA must allow the service and reimbursement of low-fat (1 percent fat) or fat-free flavored milk for participants in grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP, and for participants over the age of 6 in the CACFP. All K-12 schools may continue to offer fat-free and low-fat milk, both flavored and unflavored. Limits on added sugar in flavored milk included in the final rule must be implemented by SY 2025–2026. In the CACFP, both flavored and unflavored milk that is low-fat or fat-free may continue to be served to participants ages 6 and older.
* **Maintaining of SY 2023–2024 Sodium Limits in School Meal Patterns through SY 2026–2027**: Sodium limits in effect for SY 2023–2024 in school lunch and breakfast will continue to be the requirement through SY 2026–2027. The single sodium reduction of approximately 10 percent at breakfast and 15 percent at lunch is set to begin in SY 2027–2028.

### For more Information

For more information, please contact your assigned School and Community Nutrition Programs regional specialist, your assigned Community Nutrition Programs regional specialist, or send questions to the SNP policy mailbox via email at SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov.

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