

Summary of Child Nutrition Reauthorization Priorities for Select National Organizations/Coalitions

Organization/Coalition	Priorities	Notes
<p><u>Child Nutrition Forum</u> (National coalition; steering committee of about forty national groups including the School Nutrition Association, the Food Research and Action Center and the Community Food Security Coalition)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve access to nutritious foods in schools, child care centers and homes, in afterschool programs, on weekends, during the summer, and in the home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand breakfast programs, including universal and in-class programs in all low-income areas - Federal funding for breakfast commodities - Expand eligibility for free meals to 185% of the national poverty line - Broaden Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) eligibility guidelines and reimbursement structure - Provide suppers through afterschool programs in low-income areas - Provide more nutrition assistance to children vulnerable to hunger on weekends and when schools are not in session - Assure access to WIC for all eligible families, support current eligibility rules - Provide appropriate training and technical assistance to ensure meal quality and effectiveness <hr/> 2. Enhance the nutritional environment to promote healthy eating habits for women and children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish national nutrition standards consistent with Dietary Guidelines for Americans for foods and beverages sold outside school meals programs - USDA to assist states/local food service programs to work toward consistent national interpretation of most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans - Increase meal reimbursements - Preserve scientific basis for WIC food package and fully implement Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommendations (with limitations on Congressional ability to modify IOM recommendations) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate funds to carry out USDA Team Nutrition Network provisions from 2004 Child Nutrition Reauthorization 	
	<p>3. Modernizing and streamlining program operations to improve program integrity and efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take steps across all programs to streamline operations, all more cross-program certification, increase flexibility and maximize use of technology to reduce barriers to entry and administrative burden - Make additional resources available in areas with access barriers to Summer Food Program - Strengthen/expand direct certification for school meals (enrollment based on data matching) and expand options that reduce paper applications - Expand commitment to technology via Management Information Systems (MIS)/Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) to enhance WIC 	
<p><u>National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity</u> (Center for Science in the Public Interest)</p>	Update national nutrition standards for food sold outside of school meals	<i>Vending machines, a la carte, school stores, etc.</i>
	Increase reimbursement rates for school meals	
	Require employment of/consultation with qualified nutrition professionals	<i>At district level</i>
	Encourage states and schools to work towards meeting most recent (2005) Dietary Guidelines for Americans	<i>Do not wait for USDA mandate; however, require USDA to publish updated rules based on Institute of Medicine IOM review</i>
	Provide \$1M to IOM for assessing nutritional quality of school meals and compliance with school meal standards	<i>To cover expansion, simplification, evaluation and revision of School Meals Initiative and/or other tools</i>
	Provide \$10M for assistance grants to purchase food preparation equipment for school kitchen facilities	<i>Encourage salad bars</i>
	Fund Department of Defense Fresh Program up to \$100M	<i>Or its equivalent; encourage purchase of local produce when possible</i>
Allow schools to serve only low- or non-fat milk per Dietary Guidelines for Americans	<i>Update nutritional requirements for soymilk</i>	

Provide increase of \$2M to National Food Service Management Institute for training and technical assistance to school districts on commodity processing and procurement	<i>Would bring total funding to \$7M</i>
USDA Agriculture Marketing Service and Farm Service Agency should purchase widest variety of healthful foods	<i>Use Dietary Guidelines as basis for purchasing decisions</i>
USDA should develop/provide model product specifications and practices for USDA foods	<i>Align products with Dietary Guidelines for Americans</i>
USDA should conduct food service director study on availability of nutrition information	<i>Make recommendations to Congress based on results</i>
Strengthen local school wellness policies through federal requirements	<i>Increase policy accessibility and assessment; establish local policy committees; include policies for physical education and food marketing in schools</i>
USDA, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control US Department of Education, to develop a national clearinghouse for school wellness policy information	
USDA/Team Nutrition Network to provide competitive grants for local wellness policy development, implementation and assessment	<i>Ensure consistency with local wellness policy goals</i>
Provide reliable funding for Team Nutrition Network to streamline and reform nutrition education, and provide training and certification in nutrition and food safety for food service directors	<i>1 cent for every meal served in the National School Lunch Program, CACFP and the Summer Food Program would equal approx. \$70 million annually</i>
Preserve nutritional integrity of new WIC food packages	<i>Tie to recommendations of IOM</i>
Strengthen nutrition education and breastfeeding support through WIC	<i>Including increasing authorized funding from \$20M to \$40M for special nutrition education, such as breastfeeding peer counselors, and evaluation</i>
Support implementation of new WIC food packages and technology required for implementation	<i>Increase authorization of funding for infrastructure (\$14M to \$40M) and Management Information Systems (\$30M to \$60) [the Government Accountability Office estimated in 2002 that between \$147-267M was needed to bring WIC's essential program tasks up to standard]</i>
Provide \$5M to update health outcomes research and evaluate WIC	
Do not cap WIC nutrition services funding	<i>Including counseling, education, referrals, etc.</i>

<u>School Nutrition Association</u>	Increase the per meal reimbursement by 35 cents for all meals	<i>Reimbursements in other categories should also be adjusted upward; update federal reimbursement rates semiannually</i>
	Expand the free meal category from 130% of poverty to 185% of poverty, eliminating the reduced price meal category	<i>Consistent with WIC income eligibility guidelines</i>
	Provide 10 cents in USDA commodities for each school breakfast served	
	Grant Secretary of Agriculture statutory authority to regulate sale of all foods and beverages on school campus	<i>Consistent with most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans</i>
	Require USDA to implement a consistent, science-based national interpretation of Dietary Guidelines for Americans	<i>For all school meals reimbursed by USDA</i>
<u>National Farm to School Collaborative</u> (National Farm to School Network, Community Food Security Coalition, School Food FOCUS, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Wallace Center at Winrock International)	Enact \$50M mandatory funding for Section 122: Access to Local Foods and School Gardens for grants to schools	<i>To fund school grants of up to \$100K each</i>
<u>One Tray Coalition</u> (National Farm to School Network, Community Food Security Coalition, School Food FOCUS)	TOP: Enact \$50M mandatory funding for Section 122: Access to Local Foods and School Gardens for grants to schools	<i>To fund school grants of up to \$100K each</i>
	TOP: Establish a farm to institution initiative within the Secretary of Agriculture's office	<i>Provide national leadership, consolidate and guide various programs and policies</i>
	TOP: Increase funding for improving and evaluating school food procurement	<i>Collaboration to share and perfect best practices</i>
	Increase use of foods from regional food systems in school food programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Encourage purchasing of local fruits and vegetables through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program</i> - <i>Increase technical assistance to school food services and coordination among education, health, agriculture and procurement agencies for product sourcing, bid specs and menu planning for all child nutrition programs that purchase local foods</i>
	Increase reimbursement rates and improve access for child nutrition programs	- <i>Increase school meal reimbursement rates by at least 35 cents for school districts achieving excellence in providing nutritious school meals</i>

		- Eliminate the reduced-price category for school meals and extend free meal eligibility to households with incomes up to 185% of poverty level
	Strengthen operations and infrastructure of child nutrition programs	Enhance and fund food service training programs
	Strengthen nutrition standards for school meal programs and competitive foods	Require all foods served where child nutrition programs operate to meet or exceed national Dietary Guidelines on the entire campus throughout the school day
	Support food and nutrition education and advocacy for healthy foods	Provide consistent and mandatory funding for Team Nutrition
	Maintain the integrity of the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program	Continue to provide access to fresh local produce
<u>National Farm to School Network</u>	1. Enact mandatory money for Section 122: Access to Local Foods and School Gardens	Initial investment of \$50M, individual grants to schools up to \$100K
	2. Increase reimbursement rates for all child nutrition programs and adjust rates semiannually	Including Summer Food Service Program, afterschool snack program and CACFP
	3. Strengthen standards for school meal programs and competitive foods	Competitive/a la carte foods should meet same nutrition/quality standards
	4. Encourage purchase of local food through Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	
	5. Incorporate language in existing CNR feeding programs to promote local food procurement	Specific programs include: Commodity Distribution Program (Section 117); Summer Food (116); Nutrition Promotion (101); CACFP (119)
	6. Provide mandatory and consistent funding for Team Nutrition Network to enable a consistent and coordinated nutrition education approach across child nutrition programs	Incorporate education about agriculture and a local foods approach where feasible.
<u>School Food FOCUS</u>	1. Provide \$50M mandatory funding for farm to school programs	Via Section 122; provide grants up to \$100K to schools
	2. Improve access to child nutrition programs and increase reimbursement rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand free meal category from 130% of poverty to 185% (consistent with WIC) - Increase school lunch reimbursement rate by at least 35 cents - Expand universal breakfast programs in low-income neighborhoods - Simplify application process for all child nutrition

	3. Strengthen nutrition standards for school meal programs and competitive foods	<i>programs Require all foods, including competitive foods, served where child nutrition programs operate to meet or exceed Dietary Guidelines for Americans (or state/local requirements where stronger)</i>
<u>US Conference of Mayors</u>	Significantly increase reimbursement rates for all child nutrition programs and provide additional funding	<i>Including \$20B budget resolution over 5 years, 35 cent/meal increase in reimbursement rates</i>
	Authorize direct certification of Medicaid recipients as eligible for free meals through the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program	
	Allow schools/districts to choose to be reimbursed based on estimates of eligibility rates in exchange for serving all meals free	<i>Ability to develop individualized methodology for estimating eligibility rates based on reliable data (subject to USDA approval)</i>
	Mandate the creation of new nutrition standards	<i>Continue to allow local jurisdictions to enact standards that are higher than the national standards</i>
	Protect current WIC income eligibility and allow states option to recertify children for one year	<i>Allow adjunctive eligibility to the current state Medicaid level</i>
	Lower requirements for area eligibility in the Summer Food Service Program and the CACFP	
	Reinstate the Food Service Equipment Assistance Program; reduce barriers and provide incentives and funding for school gardens, farm to school, farmers markets and salad bar programs	
	Simplification of procurement rules pertaining to geographic preferences and a broader interpretation of the “buy local” language; creation of a “Farm to School/Farm to Institution division in order to strengthen implementation of “buy local”	
Funding for technical assistance providers to develop best practices and to support evaluation of pilot programs, in collaboration with USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service	<i>On product sourcing, bid specifications, menu planning</i>	
<u>Slow Food USA</u>	1. Increase the school lunch reimbursement rates by \$1.00	
	2. Establish strong standards for all food sold at school, including food from vending machines and school fast food	<i>Approve Rep. Woolsey’s and Sen. Harkin’s Child Nutrition Promotion and School Lunch Protection Act of 2009</i>
	3. Fund grants for innovative farm to school programs and school gardens	<i>Guarantee \$50M of mandatory funding for farm to school grant program</i>
	4. Establish financial incentives that encourage schools to buy food from local farms for all child nutrition programs	
	5. Create green jobs with a School Lunch Corps: train	<i>Building on Obama’s Serve America Act</i>

underemployed Americans to be the teachers, farmers, cooks
and administrators our school cafeterias need

LINKS:

Child Nutrition Forum

<http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Form.aspx?id=11160>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity

http://cspinet.org/new/pdf/cnr_recommendations_2009.pdf

School Nutrition Association

[http://www.schoolnutrition.org/uploadedFiles/School_Nutrition/101_News/NewsArchives/SNA_News_Articles/2009_LEGISLATIVE_IP_FINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/uploadedFiles/School_Nutrition/101_News/NewsArchives/SNA_News_Articles/2009_LEGISLATIVE_IP_FINAL(1).pdf)

National Farm to School Collaborative

http://www.foodsecurity.org/policy/Legislator_Info-50mil_Mandatory_F2S.pdf

One Tray Coalition

http://www.farmentoschool.org/files/publications_192.pdf

National Farm to School Network

<http://www.farmentoschool.org/policy/CNR09Priorities.pdf>

School Food FOCUS

<http://www.schoolfoodfocus.org/>

US Conference of Mayors

http://usmayors.org/resolutions/77th_conference/

Slow Food USA

<http://slowfoodusa.org/timeforlunch>