

Breakfast After the Bell (BAtB)

Questions and Answers

1. What is the Breakfast After the Bell (BAtB) requirement?

The Oregon Student Success Act (SSA) includes a requirement that school districts, public charter schools, and education service districts are required to make breakfast accessible at no cost to all students, after the start of the school day, at a school site if 70 percent or more of the students at that school site are eligible for federal free or reduced-price meal benefits.

2. Are Private Schools required to participate in Breakfast After the Bell due to the SSA?

Private schools are not required to participate in Breakfast After the Bell, however they may choose to participate.

3. What schools are required to implement BAtB?

The requirement applies to schools that meet the following two criteria:

1. The school is either administered by a school district (common, joint, and union school districts) or education service district, or the school is a public charter school; and
2. 70 percent or more of the students at the school, in the second preceding school year, were eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) guidelines.

Schools required to implement BAtB can be found on the [BAtB Required and Exempt Eligible Site List](#).

4. What must schools that meet the BAtB requirement implement?

- ✓ Schools required to implement BAtB must make breakfast accessible to all students after the beginning of the school day.
- ✓ Ensure breakfast is accessible to all students that arrive to school at least 30 minutes before the start of the lunch service.
- ✓ Provide breakfast at no cost to all students.

5. Is there a cut off time for when breakfast must be made available?

Schools are not required to make breakfast accessible to a student, after the beginning of the school day, if the student does not arrive at the school site at least 30 minutes before the start of the school site's lunch service. If a school has a staggered lunch schedule, the time the first lunch service starts will apply.

6. Are there any requirements on how BAtB is provided?

There is no required implementation method. There are many ways to implement a successful BAtB program. Collaborators should work together at the local level to implement the best model for each school. Implementation models include:

- ✓ Offering a second chance breakfast in the cafeteria
- ✓ Grab-'n-go pick-up tables in the hallways with an acceptable point of service
- ✓ Vending machines
- ✓ Serving breakfast in the classroom

ODE is confident that school and district administrators, teachers, parents, and students know the model that will best serve their students and their schools.

7. What BAtB model is best?

Each school site is unique. Deciding which BAtB model is best suited to a school should be made on a site-by-site basis. Factors that should be considered when choosing a model include: bell schedules and timing, delivery capacity, space considerations and equipment. Resources available that can help with decision-making and implementation are available from the [Food Research and Action Center](#), [No Kid Hungry](#) and [ODE Breakfast After the Bell](#) webpages.

8. What are schools that already offer BAtB required to do?

Schools required to implement BAtB that already have a BAtB program in place prior to the requirement must ensure their program meets the BAtB requirements, detailed in question #4, above.

9. Is there an exemption from the BAtB requirement?

Yes, a school site subject to the requirement can apply for an exemption if the school has demonstrated that 70 percent or more students eligible for free or reduced-price meals regularly receive breakfast at that school, regardless of when it is served. ODE has compiled a [BAtB required participation](#) list indicating exempt schools based on evaluated breakfast claims data.

ODE will review each school site’s exemption eligibility during the renewal process to approve or deny requested exemptions.

10. Is there money available to help with BAtB program implementation?

Yes, the legislature appropriated funds, for the biennium, for BAtB equipment grants. The purpose is to assist districts with the costs of purchasing or upgrading necessary equipment required to provide BAtB. Grants funds are allocated to participating sites and sponsors will receive a grant agreement detailing those sites and the total grant funds they will receive. Reimbursements are based on expenditure documentation provided.

11. Where should the BAtB Equipment Grant award be deposited?

Public schools and charter schools may not deposit their BAtB Equipment Grant awards into the nonprofit food service accounts. Recipients of a BAtB Equipment Grant award must deposit this grant award into a separate account.

12. What are the allowable uses of our BAtB Equipment Grant award?

A recipient of a BAtB Equipment Grant award may use their award only for purchasing new equipment, repairing, renovating, or upgrading equipment the recipient already owns, which is necessary and required to provide students’ breakfast after the school day begins. The BAtB equipment Grant award may not be used for administrative costs.

As a reminder, “Equipment” means tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year that is necessary and required to provide breakfast after the beginning of the school day. ([OAR 581-051-0605](#))

Here are some examples of reimbursable BAtB equipment:

- Breakfast Carts
- Coolers (portable, soft-sided or plug in)
- Pans/Trays
- Work Tables

Items such as cleaners, paper products, food, etc. are not reimbursable.

13. What are the procurement requirements for equipment purchased with this grant?

Oregon BAAtB funds are state funds. However, due to this grant being administered as a reimbursement grant, the procurement requirements will depend on the funding source used at the time of purchase.

- ✓ General Funds Account: If the School Food Authority purchases, repairs, renovates, or upgrades the necessary equipment with funds from General Funds or other non-federal funds state procurement standards outlined in ORS 279B would be followed.
- ✓ If the School Food Authority purchases, repairs, renovates, or upgrades the necessary equipment with funds from the nonprofit food service account, then federal procurement standards outlined in 2 CFR 200.318 through 200.327 must be followed. If the unit cost of the equipment exceeds \$5,000 and the equipment is not on the ODE CNP capital equipment pre-approval list, the School Food Authority will need to meet the requirement of 2 CFR 200.439.
- ✓ If the school food authority uses a combination of federal and non-federal funds the more restrictive procurement standards must be applied.

The awardee can find more information and resources on the [Oregon Department of Education Child Nutrition Procurement Resources](#) website for these requirements.

14. What if the equipment is over the amount of the grant?

Nonprofit food service account or general funds can be used to pay the remaining amount of the purchase.

15. I want to purchase one piece of equipment for multiple sites, do I have to complete a reimbursement form for each site?

You may split your equipment expense shown on your invoice for two or more sites. You must ensure that the sites will use this equipment for breakfast after the bell. You would complete a [BAAtB Equipment Assistance Grant Reimbursement form](#) for each site showing how you are splitting the cost. Please submit this for approval along with your invoice.

16. How do I put in a claim for the BAAtB Equipment Grant?

You can submit multiple claims or a single claim for each site. (We prefer that you would combine all of your purchases into one claim reimbursement form for each site and attached the invoices with one reimbursement form). To submit your claim, please follow the below steps:

1. Email your invoice(s) and [NSLP Breakfast After the Bell Equipment Assistance Grant Reimbursement Form](#) for each site to ode.schoolnutrition@ode.oregon.gov. Include in the subject line of the email "BAAtB Equipment Grant Reimbursement – (school name)"
2. After approval, submit your claim(s) through the [Electronic Grant Management System](#).

17. If I have various sites and invoices, what is the best way to organize this for my claims?

If you have multiple sites and invoices, to keep track of this, you can complete a [BAAtB Equipment Grant Claim Template for Multiple Sites and Vendors](#) spreadsheet. This electronic template spreadsheet categorizing each site, invoices, and shows the total purchase and amount remaining for each site and the amount remaining.