

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 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.

The BAtB requirement went into effect July 1, 2020, however the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent declaration of the National Public Health Emergency in March of 2020, postponed implementation. Full implementation of the BAtB requirement is required as of July 1, 2022.

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 (or when unavailable, the most recent data) were eligible for free or reduced price meals under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) guidelines. The SY 2022-2023 BAtB required list evaluated data from SY 2018-2019, due to SY 2019-2020 data being unavailable.

For example, if 89% of the students at Lincoln Elementary School were eligible for free or reduced price meals in SY 2018-2019, then the Washington D.C. School District must make breakfast accessible after the school day begins at that school in SY 2022-2023.

Schools required to implement BAtB can be found on the [BAtB required participation](#) list. Please note, BAtB information on the CNPweb Site Information sheets for School Year 2022-2023 is not accurate and cannot be used to determine the BAtB requirement or exemption eligibility.

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 applies.

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. Stakeholders 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 organization's Center for Best Practices](#), and the [ODE Breakfast After the Bell](#) webpage.

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

Schools required to implement BAtB and have a BAtB program in place prior to the requirement need to ensure the BAtB program is accessible and provided free of charge to all students, regardless of their grade and their free/reduced price meal eligibility status (provided they've arrived at least 30 minutes before the start of the lunch service).

Schools not required to implement BAtB, but choose to offer BAtB can continue to operate without changes.

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, even though it does not make breakfast available after the bell. ODE has compiled a [BAtB required participation](#) list indicating exempt schools based on breakfast claims data during an evaluation period.

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 BAtB equipment grants for the purpose of assisting districts with the costs of purchasing or upgrading necessary equipment required to provide BAtB. School districts, education service districts, and public charter schools will receive a BAtB equipment grant agreement for each school that is required to implement BAtB. Reimbursements will be 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.

Keep in mind that [the 2019 edition of the Program Budgeting and Accounting Manual \(PBAM\) for School Districts and Education Service Districts in Oregon](#) includes new and revised fund classifications for school nutrition programs. Please review the 2019 edition of PBAM with your school or district's business or financial services staff and then code your BAtB equipment grant awards appropriately.

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.

13. What is amount of the grant?

The grant amount is \$3574.47 for each qualified site.

14. When is the time period of when equipment may be purchased?

This grant runs July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Equipment must be purchased during this period. Claims must be submitted before August 31, 2023.

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

Oregon BAtB 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.

16. 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.