

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0149

Supplemental assistance-school food service operations.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Connolly, Barlow and
Lindholm and Senator(s) Driskill and
Rothfuss

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; creating a categorical
2 grant program for public school food service operations;
3 specifying eligibility requirements; specifying financial
4 assistance computations; requiring reports; requiring
5 standardized accounting practices; providing an
6 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-13-336 is created to read:

11

12 **21-13-336. Supplemental financial assistance program**
13 **for school food service operations.**

14

1 (a) The supplemental financial assistance program for
2 food service operations is established to augment resources
3 within the education resource block grant model to assist
4 school districts with covering the costs of food service
5 programs. Financial assistance under this section shall be
6 in addition to and not considered in determining school
7 foundation program payments under the education resource
8 block grant model pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309. Calculations
9 for a district's total food service program funding deficit
10 shall be prescribed by department rule and regulation and
11 shall include only qualifying meals. For the purpose of
12 this section, "qualifying meals" means the total number of
13 breakfast and lunch meals qualifying for reimbursement
14 under the national school breakfast program established
15 under the Child Nutrition Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1771 et seq., or
16 the national school lunch program established under the
17 Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §
18 1751 et seq. The department shall establish uniform
19 accounting standards, procedures and processes which the
20 department and districts shall follow in accounting for
21 food service program revenues and expenditures. If there
22 are insufficient appropriations to fund the program created
23 by this section in any school year, the department shall

1 make a pro rata reduction in financial assistance payments
2 among all qualifying districts for that school year. To
3 qualify for financial assistance under this section, a
4 school district shall:

5

6 (i) Be in compliance with federal, state and
7 district regulations and policies;

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9 (ii) Participate in the national school
10 breakfast program, the national school lunch program or
11 both;

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13 (iii) Conduct periodic food service program
14 evaluations reviewing program quality and performance as
15 measured by quality review instruments provided by the
16 department;

17

18 (iv) Implement financial management policies and
19 procedures for the food service program, including
20 procurement, wage scales comparable to other district
21 employees and accounting policies conforming to the
22 department's accounting standards, procedures and processes
23 established pursuant to this subsection;

1

2 (v) Implement a qualifying meals counting system
3 in compliance with department rules and regulations for
4 reporting purposes under this section; and

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6 (vi) Show evidence that Wyoming grown products
7 account for a minimum of ten percent (10%) of food costs.

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9 (b) Any qualifying school district may apply for
10 financial assistance under this section with the department
11 at the same time the district reports actual revenue
12 collections for the purpose of reconciliation under W.S.
13 21-13-313(d). Application shall be in a form and manner
14 specified by department rule and regulation and shall
15 include:

16

17 (i) The number of qualifying meals served by the
18 district's food service program during the school year
19 immediately preceding the year of application as documented
20 and computed in accordance with department rule and
21 regulation;

22

1 (ii) The district's total actual food service
2 program expenditures based upon total qualifying meals
3 served during the school year immediately preceding the
4 year of application as documented and computed in
5 accordance with department rule and regulation;

6
7 (iii) The district's total actual food service
8 program revenues based upon total qualifying meals served
9 during the school year immediately preceding the year of
10 application as documented and computed in accordance with
11 department rule and regulation.

12
13 (c) The amount of assistance for each qualifying
14 applicant district under this section shall be determined
15 by multiplying the statewide per meal reimbursement amount
16 of eighty-six cents (\$0.86) by the number of qualifying
17 meals reported by the applicant district under paragraph
18 (b)(i) of this section. Payments for each qualifying
19 district shall be made by the department not later than
20 November 15 of the school year of application.

21
22 (d) Each district shall report annually to the
23 department on food service program revenues, expenses,

1 operations, policies and procedures in a manner and level
2 of detail required by department rule and regulation. The
3 department shall compile information reported under this
4 section and submit the compilation to the joint education
5 interim committee not later than December 1 of each school
6 year.

7
8 **Section 2.** The statewide per meal reimbursement of
9 eighty-six cents (\$0.86) was determined in accordance with
10 the recommendations of the state education finance
11 consultants in the 2015 cost of education studies, and as
12 received by the Select Committee on School Finance
13 Recalibration, utilizing school year 2014-2015 school
14 district data as reported by the department of education.

15
16 **Section 3.** For the period beginning July 1, 2016 and
17 ending June 30, 2018, twenty million dollars
18 (\$20,000,000.00) is appropriated from the school foundation
19 program account to the department of education to fund the
20 program created under and subject to requirements specified
21 in section 1 of this act. Notwithstanding any other
22 provision of law, this appropriation shall not be
23 transferred or expended for any purpose other than to

1 provide supplemental financial assistance for food service
2 operations. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining
3 from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on
4 June 30, 2018.

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6 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2016.

7

8 (END)