

Breakfast After the Bell

HB 1295/SB 5437

Washington ranks 41st out of 50 states in reaching low-income students with nutritious school breakfasts. Without a healthy breakfast, a student's chance of success is drastically reduced.

The good news is there's a solution: Breakfast After the Bell incorporates the most important meal into the school day – just like lunch!

Barriers to Breakfast

Serving breakfast in the cafeteria before the school day starts presents many obstacles for kids and families. Bus and carpool schedules, social stigma, and peer pressure prevent kids from eating school breakfast at that time.

Moving breakfast to after the bell removes these barriers and increases participation.

A Guarantee for the Kids Who Need It Most

HB 1295/SB 5437 would give kids in high needs schools food where and when it matters.

Starting in the 2016-17 school year, schools where at least 70% of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals would be required to offer breakfast after the start of the school day.

- More than 400 high-needs schools will benefit from Breakfast After the Bell under this legislation – 17% of schools statewide
- 25,000 more low-income students will access breakfast each day under Breakfast After the Bell as compared to traditional breakfast programs
- The state will earn an additional \$23 million in federal reimbursements to support the program

Schools have had the option to serve breakfast after the bell now, but school adoption of the program has remained low. Kids in high-needs schools need a guarantee.

Support for Start-Up Costs

While Breakfast After the Bell is self-supporting with federal dollars once it gets going, schools need some support to get the program up and running. HB 1295/SB 5437 provides each school required to implement Breakfast After the Bell with a one-time start-up allocation of up to \$6,000 to cover the cost of food carts, additional staffing, or other program expenses.

Schools have the flexibility to choose the method of delivery they would like for serving breakfast after the bell.

For more information

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Breakfast After the Bell Coalition Members

Action for Healthy Kids

American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network

American Heart Association

Anti-Hunger and Nutrition Coalition

Association of Washington
Housing Authorities

Building Changes

Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

City of Seattle

Coordinated Care

Equity in Education Coalition

Faith Action Network

Food Lifeline

Foundation for Healthy Generations

Healthy King County Coalition

Hopelink

International Union of Operating
Engineers, Local 609

Jewish Federation

League of Education Voters

League of Women Voters

National Association of Social Workers
Washington State Chapter

Northwest Harvest

Nutrition First

Pediatric Association of Naturopathic
Physicians

Public Health Roundtable

Public School Employees/SEIU 1948

School Nurse Organization of
Washington

School's Out Washington

Solid Ground

Stand for Children - Washington

Statewide Poverty Action Network

TeamChild

Teamsters Local Union Number 117

United Ways of the Pacific Northwest

WA Association of Colleges for
Teacher Education

WA Education Association

WA School Counselor Association

WA State Alliance of YMCAs

WA State Food & Nutrition Council

WA State Chapter, American Academy
of Pediatrics

WA State Labor Council

