Updated November 2022

**IDEAS TO FUND YOUR STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM (SNP)**

*NOTE: These are ideas only. Please follow your school’s own policies and keep in mind the Ministry’s PPM150 guidelines for selling foods and beverages.*

**BORROW FROM WHAT YOU’RE ALREADY DOING**

* ***School Events***- Take a percentage (e.g., 25% or more) of movie night, pajama day, pizza day, etc. and donate to the nutrition program.
* ***School Council***- Ask your School Council to donate a percentage of their fundraising events toward your school breakfast program.
* ***Snack Stand*:**Set up a stall at ***all*** your events and sell drinks, snacks, or treats. Try to get the food/beverages donated or at a reduced price from your local grocery store.

**DONATIONS**

* ***Donations Jar***- Place a jar for donations either in the breakfast location or school office; ask (but don’t insist) on a minimum .25 cents donation or more.
* ***Corporate Donations***- ask parents to ask for donations from their workplaces (provide them with a letter and information); or contact all the companies nearby your school. Build relationships for ongoing support, not only one-time donations.
* ***Parent Donations***- Include *"school nutrition program"* as a specific option if you are using the online Cash Net payment system (or any method of collection).  Schools unsuccessful at collecting money digitally made the mistake by lumping the student nutrition program in with "general donations". People want to donate to something ***specific***.

**FOOD & SUPPLIES DONATIONS**

* ***Parents/students bring in fruit***- Ask children/parents to bring in one BAG of apples one day of the week and this will cover the fruit cost for one or more weeks. Brand these ideas, for example “Tuesday Apple Day”, just like ‘pizza day’.
* ***Pay for food, let others pay for the rest***
  + Approach your local food businesses for non-food donations. e.g. Sandwich shop (Subways, Mr. Sub, etc.) – *disposable gloves; napkins; etc.*
  + Ask parents (who can also ask others) if they have a good used fridge to donate.
* ***Have a cereal drive at your school***. List specific healthy cereals the breakfast program can use. Build a display with all the cereal boxes you receive to show your success.
* ***Have a food drive at your school***- ask students to donate their favorite breakfast item. Send a detailed list of items that meet nutritional guidelines home with students. Invite parents to get their workplace involved. You can also designate one breakfast food to each grade, for example: **Grade 1** – Oats **Grade 2** – Fruit **Grade 3** – Yogurt
* ***Have a food drive at another school-*** Approach a school nearby that does not have a nutrition program. Ask them to have a cereal and/or food drive on behalf of your program.

**APPLY FOR A GRANT**

* See our list of grants (separate document). Click [here](https://www.foodforlearning.com/resources) for resources.

**COUPON DONATIONS**

* Ask for donations of food coupons for specific items used in the breakfast program.
* Have a box in the office to collect Canadian Tire money for small appliances and kitchenware.
* Encourage donations of store reward points (e.g., PC points or Air Miles and use to order gift cards for grocery stores).

**SHOPPING BEST PRACTICES**

* Develop a relationship with your local grocer(s) for deals and discounts.

**FUNDRAISERS**

* ***“Fresh from the Farm”***- Sell Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables to school communities. Schools keep 40% of sales. Families enjoy value priced Ontario-grown food. [www.freshfromfarm.ca](http://www.freshfromfarm.ca)
* ***Grocery Store Fundraiser***- For example, kindergarten and Grade 1 students in Colborne created some colourful posters to encourage shoppers at their local grocery store to support the school's breakfast program. Customers can buy cardboard apple cutouts for a minimum two-dollar donation and all the money raised goes directly to your program.
* ***Pancake Mix Sale***: Make homemade whole wheat pancake mix from bulk ingredients. Portion and package the ingredients into nice containers/paper bags, attach recipe directions and add a personalized message or school logo. Sell to staff, parents and community.
* ***Share-a-Breakfast***: Invite parents/others to have breakfast with the students in exchange for a small fee or donation
* ***“Guess Who’s Coming to Breakfast”***: Invite a role model/special guest from the community to eat breakfast with parents/students. Charge for the event.
* ***Walk-to-Breakfast-*** Collect pledges for the walk. End with a breakfast.
* ***Cookbook Sale***: Create and print a cookbook; sell it electronically to parents
* ***Breakfast Auction***: Each class makes a creative themed breakfast to be sold to parents or auctioned off during special events at the school or during parent-teacher interviews. Be sure to select foods that can be served safely at room temperature and meets the nutritional guidelines.
* ***Fruit Grams***- Sell fruit-grams or fruit smoothies for special holidays at school. Students purchase a fruit-gram and write a special note for a friend.
* ***Casual Day***- Collect donations for staff casual day and donate this money to your program.
* ***Pocket Change Campaign***- Place a creative (and large) container where parents/visitors can easily see it in which to drop their pocket change. Students can make/decorate the container.
* ***Skip a Meal/Give a Meal***– Ask parents/local businesses to skip a meal by giving a meal (the amount they would typically spend on their lunch, donate it to a good cause instead)!  You can replace skipping a meal with a cup of coffee too.