No Kid Hungry Alabama Summer Meals Grants

Grants at a Glance

No Kid Hungry Alabama, a campaign of Share Our Strength, is dedicated to ending child hunger by focusing our efforts in communities where the need is greatest and the opportunity for impact is highest. In alignment with this mission, our summer grant funding prioritizes rural non-congregate meal programs, helping address barriers to food access and reach children in underserved communities.

Average Grant Award: $10,000- $15,000

Application Timeline: Applications typically open in mid-February and close in late April. Exact dates will be shared at the beginning of 2027.

Who Can Apply: School districts and community-based organizations operating the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or Seamless Summer Option (SSO) in rural communities that can utilize the non-congregate option.

Interested? Subscribe to our monthly newsletter at **state.nokidhungry.org/alabama/newsletter/** to be among the first to hear about summer grant opportunities, funding announcements, and other important updates. More information about upcoming grant opportunities, including the grant inquiry form, will be shared at the start of the new calendar year.

What Can No Kid Hungry Alabama's Grants Support?

Grant funds will be prioritized for summer meals sponsors seeking to expand reach of non-congregate meal programs in high-priority communities. **Strategies may include:**

New sponsors who have previously not served non-congregate meals launching programs to operate in new areas with gaps in service.

Leveraging non-congregate models which have been demonstrated to be more effective at reaching kids, including home delivery and mobile route distribution.

Existing sponsors adding new non-congregate meal sites and/or increasing accessibility of existing sites by keeping sites open additional hours, increasing the number of meals being served, shifting hours to better meet community needs, or improving site locations.

Maximizing program operations to serve the maximum allowable number of meals each week and for the duration of the summer.

Grants are meant to expand the operation of rural non-congregate meals. No Kid Hungry Alabama grants will not fund projects that support congregate meals or any feeding option outside federal child nutrition programs.

Meals Served by No Kid Hungry Alabama 2026 Grantees: 1,574,994 meals

Summer meal sponsors have requested No Kid Hungry grant funding to support a variety of operational needs, including:

Equipment & Infrastructure - $10,550 for an electric pallet stacker, pallet jacks, and forklift rental to improve food storage and transportation logistics. These investments helped expand their 10-day bulk meal distribution program to serve approximately 400 additional children and 60,000+ additional meals.

Technology & Program Integrity - $5,500 for registration and meal-counting technology ($3,500) and milk coolers ($2,000) to transition from congregate meal service to a 10-day bulk meal distribution model, while supporting accurate meal tracking and safe food storage.

Transportation & Accessibility - $40,000 toward a summer meals van to expand curbside pickup and home delivery in rural communities where some families live 45-60 minutes from school meal sites. The vehicle helped transport meals across three sites and reach families facing transportation barriers.

"[I'm] unsure if without the grant.. that I would have the courage and resources to try a new program. The grant makes it feel doable and manageable. It's like a safety net, a spark."

-Pam Dempsey, Piedmont City Schools

Resources:

Looking for ideas and guidance to strengthen your summer meals program? The No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices offers free resources, webinars, toolkits, and real-world examples to help sponsors navigate challenges, explore innovative service models, and expand access to summer meals. Explore our summer meals resources at the QR code to the right.

Visit **bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/** to explore these resources and more!

Have questions? Reach out to Kate Goodin at kgoodin@strength.org.

For updates, follow and like the No Kid Hungry Facebook page (**@NoKidHungryAL**).