

# Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program



MARYLAND

*No Kid Hungry Maryland urges support for HB 0514, which will increase funding in FY 24 to the Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program. This successful program creates long-term success by ensuring that students in high-poverty schools start the day with breakfast, ready to learn.*

## What Is MMFA?

Launched in 1998, MMFA is a successful state program that allows high-poverty schools to provide free Breakfast After the Bell to all students at no cost.

## How Does MMFA Work?

Eligible schools must have at least 40% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Schools must also serve breakfast as part of the school day (like lunch is) instead of before school starts.

## The MMFA Investment

Since 2018, the State of Maryland has supported the MMFA program with \$7.55 million annually, an amount that supplements the federally funded School Breakfast Program to help participating schools serve breakfast after the bell to all students at no cost.

## The MMFA Need

More than 120 schools eligible for MMFA funding in School Year 2022-2023 did not participate, in part because of insufficient funding for the program. **An additional \$4.5 million could bring MMFA to all eligible schools.**

## MMFA Is Good for Students and Schools

School breakfast has a host of benefits for students: it has been shown to **improve their overall diet, enhance their ability to learn, promote school attendance and decrease discipline issues.** Serving breakfast as part of the school day and at no cost to students has been proven to be an effective way to realize these benefits. In MMFA schools, nearly 64% of free or reduced-price eligible students participate in the school breakfast program compared with 31% in other Maryland public schools.



BY THE NUMBERS

**\$4.5 million**

The additional amount needed each year to reach all eligible schools.

**739**

The number of schools eligible for MMFA funding in SY22-23

**123**

The number of schools not participating in MMFA in SY22-23 that could benefit from full funding.

**For More Information, Contact:**  
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