

BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL



Opportunity

All students deserve to reach their full potential. Unfortunately, too many children don't have enough food at home—they arrive at school hungry, struggling to pay attention in class. School breakfast is proven to boost academic performance, improve attendance, and support positive class environments. But on a typical day, two million low-income California students miss out on school breakfast.

Providing breakfast after the start of the school day overcomes barriers for students to access school breakfast. Strategically investing in after-the-bell school breakfast programs will help California advance equity by ensuring that low-income students have the nutrition they need to succeed in school and life.



Budget Action

- ➔ Strengthen and extend California's *After-the-Bell Breakfast Expansion Grant* program to better reach high poverty schools and schools with high rates of chronic absenteeism

Why This Matters

All children deserve access to essential resources that support health and learning. Decades of research confirm that school breakfast improves student academic performance, attendance, and health.

Breakfast after the bell makes better use of existing federal dollars and helps to address the persistent inequities that put California's low-income students at a disadvantage in school and into adulthood.

Benefits of reaching California's low-income students with school breakfast:



Improved Attendance
for 3 in 5 low-income students



Fewer Absences
3 million fewer absences



Additional Funding
millions in district funding