

## Key Takeaways From K12 Legislative Action Conference 2025 (LAC)

*This year's Legislative Action Conference (LAC), organized by the School Nutrition Association (SNA), was filled with more questions than answers. The event brought together school nutrition professionals from across the country to Washington D.C. to discuss the latest updates on school nutrition legislation. After the education sessions, SNA members visited Capitol Hill to speak with legislators on several key issues. Through all the uncertainty, it was encouraging to see the good fight for school meals continue on.*



---

### Potential Budget Cuts Cause Concern

One of the main concerns was the potential cuts to the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and other school meal programs. The House of Representatives recently passed a budget resolution that could lead to significant reductions in school meal funding, raising concerns among attendees. The proposed changes could impact over 24,000 schools, making them ineligible for the CEP program. This will leave more students at risk of losing access to their healthiest, and sometime only, meal of the day. The effects on states who have enacted free universal meals remains to be seen.

---

### Advocating For Higher Reimbursements

Another major issue discussed was the rising costs and stagnant meal reimbursement rates. School nutrition programs currently receive about \$4.50 in reimbursements for every lunch served, but the SNA is advocating for an increase to help operators manage rising costs.

## USDA Funding Cuts

SNA announced at the conference that the USDA has canceled two programs that provided about \$1 billion in funding to schools and food banks to buy food directly from local farms, ranchers, and producers. The Local Food for Schools program, which was active in 40 U.S. states, and the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program, which supported food banks and other feeding organizations, have both been cut. Lastly, the future of federal grant funding remains uncertain. With the federal funding freeze, school nutrition operators are unsure about the availability of future grants.

## About The School Nutrition Association

The School Nutrition Association (SNA) is a national, nonprofit professional organization representing 50,000 members who provide high-quality, low-cost meals to students across the country. Recognized as the authority on school nutrition, SNA has been advancing the availability, quality, and acceptance of school nutrition programs as an integral part of education since 1946.



**Tara Sharpe, K12 Director Of Sales**

800.886.6866 • [tsharpe@nationalfoodgroup.com](mailto:tsharpe@nationalfoodgroup.com)

**National Food Group**

46820 Magellan Dr., Novi, MI 48377

## About National Food Group

Founded in 1990, National Food Group is one of America's fastest-growing wholesale foodservice manufacturers and distributors. National Food Group's family of brands includes Zee Zees® better-for-you snacks for kids of all ages, Elated Plates®, innovative food items ensuring a supreme sense of satisfaction with every bite, and Fare Promise® for truly square and deliciously nutritious meals at remarkably low prices.

National Food Group offers three core programs to help make budgets and planning easy: Always Available®, Opportunity Buys®, and Commodity Processing™. Our food experts can also develop original items to meet custom nutritional and pricing requirements. For more information, visit [nationalfoodgroup.com](http://nationalfoodgroup.com).

