# Superintendent’s Memo #179-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: July 26, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: Application for State Funding for Alternative Breakfast Service Models 2019-2020

The purpose of this memo is to provide information on funding opportunities to increase access to school breakfast. The fiscal year 2020 state budget provides $1.074 million in state funding to support increasing access and participation in breakfast through traditional service models as well as alternative service models, referred to as Breakfast after the Bell (BaB). Each approved school will receive a state reimbursement of $0.05 per breakfast served in an elementary school and $0.10 per breakfast served in middle and high schools. School divisions will be awarded funds through their school nutrition program. The school division must submit a certification statement and an application to the Virginia Department of Education for eligible schools to participate.

### Alternative Breakfast Service Models

Alternative breakfast service models provide meals to students through a distribution method different from traditional meal service, offering opportunities that would otherwise limit access. Making breakfast more accessible and convenient results in an increase in breakfast participation. Some examples of alternative breakfast service models include, Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab and Go Breakfast, and Second Chance Breakfast.

### Eligible Schools

1. Schools participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) School Breakfast Program (SBP) with total student free and reduced price meal eligibility of 45 percent or greater.
2. Schools implementing an alternative service model.
3. Schools working to expand participation in the traditional breakfast program. A plan that includes strategies for increasing student breakfast participation must be submitted with the application for these schools to be considered.

### Requirements

1. Complete the certification statement. The certification statement is Attachment A to this memorandum.
2. Complete an application for the school division and submit to VDOE via SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov by **August 9, 2019**. The application is available in SNPWeb in the download forms section. Applications can also be requested by emailing SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov.
3. Report the number of breakfast meals served for each school as part of the monthly School Nutrition Program (SNP) SNPWeb claim. All claims must be submitted in a timely manner.
4. Participate in the evaluation of the educational impact of the models implemented and submit the required data to VDOE by August 1, 2020, to be included in a statewide evaluation report. Funded schools that do not provide data by August 1, 2020, are subject to exclusion from funding in the following year. A data collection from will be provided by VDOE to all recipient schools and school divisions in December 2019 to obtain data from the previous school year and in May 2020 to obtain data from the current school year. Data will include:
	1. Student attendance and tardy arrivals;
	2. Office discipline referrals;
	3. Teaches’ and administrators’ responses to the impact of the alternative service models; and
	4. The financial impact of the alternative breakfast models on the division’s school nutrition program.

### Criteria for Scoring Applications

Applications will be ranked in the following order:

1. Middle and high school with a total free and reduced lunch eligibility of 45 percent and above implementing an alternative breakfast model.
2. Elementary schools with a total free and reduced lunch eligibility of 45 percent and above that did not receive Breakfast After the Bell funding in the 2018-2019 school year.
3. Elementary schools with a total free and reduced lunch eligibility of 45 percent and above that received funding in the 2018-2019 school year.
4. All schools with a total free and reduced lunch eligibility participation below 45 percent providing an alternative service model.
5. All schools with a total free and reduced lunch eligibility participation below 45 percent that submit a plan to increase their traditional breakfast service model.

### Application Process

1. Complete the certification statement and include the Division Superintendent’s signature for approval.
2. The application can be found in SNPWeb in the downloadable forms section. You can also email SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov for an application.
3. Send applications and certification statements to SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov by **August 9, 2019**. Late applications will not be accepted.
4. Enter alternative breakfast model type in the SNPWeb 2019-2020 annual program application for the applicant school site.
5. Priority will be given to schools with free and reduced lunch eligibility participation of 45 percent and above.
6. VDOE will notify schools of their approval by September 6, 2019.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the school nutrition program specialist assigned to your school division, or Denise Branscome, Policy and Research Specialist at (804) 225-2330 or by email at SNPPolicy@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/BDB/cc

### Alternative Breakfast Models