

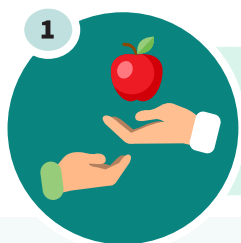


## HOW WE GOT HERE:

# SCHOOL NUTRITION STANDARDS FINAL RULE

School nutrition professionals continue to make school meals the healthiest meals children eat in a day! To take school meals to the next level, USDA is updating the school nutrition standards after considering recommendations from the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans and listening to a diverse range of voices with experience in child nutrition and health.

USDA took a multi-step approach in supporting schools to give kids the best chance at a healthy future.



### TRANSITIONAL STANDARDS RULE

February 2022

Established stronger standards in three key areas – milk, whole grains, and sodium – to support schools in moving forward from pandemic flexibilities.



### LISTENED TO PUBLIC FEEDBACK



### PROPOSED NUTRITION STANDARDS RULE

February 2023

Proposed long-term school nutrition standards based on the latest Dietary Guidelines for Americans and partner feedback.



### LISTENED TO PUBLIC FEEDBACK



### FINAL RULE

April 2024

Updated school nutrition standards in a few key areas, while fruits, vegetables, and whole grains are still emphasized.



### IMPLEMENTATION & SUPPORTING SCHOOLS

Fall 2025- Fall 2027 & Beyond

Updated standards phased in gradually to give everyone time to adapt. USDA will continue to listen to the voices that helped develop the updated standards to ensure long-term success for everyone.



### PUBLIC FEEDBACK

USDA worked hand-in-hand with schools, industry, students, parents, and others to gather input, including formal comment periods, conferences, listening sessions, and more, which is incorporated in the final rule.