



BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING's Grant Guidelines for Student Nutrition Program Support

BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING (BFL) provides nutrition grants, equipment funding and program support to schools and/or pre-approved community partners who operate breakfast, lunch, and/or snack programs for children and youth enrolled in a school (as defined by federal, provincial/territorial legislation and curriculum) for K-12 (pre-K if associated with school). We encourage you to visit our website (www.breakfastforlearning.ca) to learn more.

Nutrition programs not considered for BFL funding are:

- a) Child Care/Day Care
- b) Community Kitchens
- c) Parent/Child & Pre-school
- d) College or Universities
- e) Adult Education
- f) After School/Summer School

Grant Guidelines:

Breakfast for Learning grants may be used to purchase food, equipment and supplies. Breakfast for Learning grants are not intended to be the primary financial source for student nutrition programs; they are intended to supplement funding. Student nutrition programs should establish and maintain partnerships within the school community (parents, local government, business, service groups etc.) to ensure financial stability.

Grant applications are accepted from schools and *pre-approved* community partners operating student nutrition programs on behalf of a school (school Principal's approval is REQUIRED). To be eligible for funding, student nutrition programs must:

- 1) Operate a breakfast, lunch or snack program in a school for children and/or youth between junior kindergarten and the last year of high school. The program may be run by the school or be part of a community-based group affiliated with a school.
- 2) Operate at least three days per week; however, BFL strongly encourages programs to operate five days per week.
- 3) Deliver a universal program. All children are encouraged to participate regardless of ability to pay. No child should be excluded. This ensures that the program is not stigmatizing and that children can feel welcome, safe and comfortable.
- 4) Serve nutritious food. Breakfast, lunch and snack menus should be planned using a current version of Canada's Food Guide and/or Canada's Food Guide for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php). Menus must adhere to all school, district/division board and/or provincial nutrition policy (where applicable). Breakfast and lunch must include at least 3 of the 4 food groups; snack menus must offer a minimum of 2 food groups.
- 5) Comply with local food safety and preparation regulations. All student nutrition programs must be in compliance with local regulations regarding food safety and preparation.



Grant Conditions:

Breakfast for Learning's grant recipients are required to:

- 1) Sign and submit the BFL Acknowledgement Forms, acknowledging receipt of all funding.
- 2) Operate the program in accordance with BFL Guiding Principles and as per the school Nutrition Grant Application and/or BFL Community Partner Grant Agreement.
- 3) Complete and submit an annual BFL Progress Report accounting for the program's activity and financial expenditures.
- 4) Keep all receipts related to BFL funding on file for a period of six years and make available to BFL upon request.
- 5) Keep BFL informed of matters of mutual interest and anything that may impact the operations of the program(s).

Breakfast for Learning has permission to highlight BFL support of your program in organization publications, general communications, website and other related material.

BFL's grant recipients are encouraged to:

- 1) Participate in and/or volunteer for any BFL initiatives designed to help support or promote BFL.
- 2) Support BFL with donor and other visits to their school nutrition program.
- 3) Incorporate acknowledgement of BFL funding in program materials by stating that the program is supported in part by Breakfast for Learning;
- 4) Supply photographs, stories- ensuring written consent is provided with each submission and/or volunteers for speaking or media events as required.

Grant Allocations:

Breakfast for Learning takes the following criteria into consideration when allocating its funding:

- 1) Program Data: type of program, number of children served and frequency of the program
- 2) Established Level of Need. Recognizing the fact that all communities across Canada have unique needs and that access to resources varies from community to community, BFL will factor into its decision making a program's established level of need. To this end, student nutrition program applicants will be asked to provide BFL with any relevant information that may help to establish the program's level of need (such as poverty rates, prioritization factors/ratings utilized by your school board/council/education authority to assess level of community need, etc.).
- 3) Revenue: BFL is committed to supporting student nutrition programs. However BFL is not able to provide 100% of a program's financial needs. As such, BFL supports programs that have diversified funding sources which enables their sustainability. It is important that programs list all other sources of revenue.



BFL encourages the following in its funded programs:

- 1) **Have a Local Coordinating Program Committee:** a local program committee must be established to plan and administer the program. The committee is encouraged to include a variety of stakeholders such as: parents or caregivers of children using the program, teachers and other school staff, students, Elders and other interested community members and/or partners.
- 2) **Family Involvement:** family members and caregivers should be informed about the program needs and be provided with the opportunity to support the program in which their children participate, based on their ability through financial support, in-kind donations and volunteering.
- 3) **Student Involvement:** nutrition programs provide an excellent opportunity for students to exercise good citizenship, develop valuable life skills and learn about proper nutrition.
- 4) **Diversified Sources of Funds:** BFL believes in a community development model for nutrition programming and provides partial funding for student nutrition programs. Programs should establish and maintain partnerships within the school, with parents, and the community (e.g. provincial/municipal funding (where available), businesses, service clubs and faith groups), to ensure program and financial sustainability.
- 5) **Inclusion of Nutrition Education:** BFL believes that eating and learning about nutritious food at an early age is one of the best ways to foster healthy eating habits, contributing to the prevention of both childhood health problems and chronic illness in adulthood. As such, BFL believes nutrition education should be a vital component of student nutrition programs.

For more information, please contact: info@breakfastforlearning.ca