



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Food and
Nutrition
Service

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Alexandria, VA
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MEMO CODE: SP 14-2009

DATE: February 26, 2009

SUBJECT: Economic Stimulus Funding for the National School Lunch
Program – Equipment Grants

TO: Regional Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

Public Law 111-5, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The ARRA provides \$100 million for grants to school food authorities (SFAs) for equipment assistance.

Funds are to be distributed to States based on the proportion of State Administrative Expense funds received. State agencies (SAs) must then make grants to SFAs on a competitive basis, with priority given to schools in which no less than 50 percent of the students are eligible for free and reduced price meals.

We will be advising SAs of their funding allocations and issuing implementation information very shortly. Funds provided through the ARRA are intended to be utilized expeditiously; therefore SAs should be prepared to conduct their competitive grant process as quickly and efficiently as possible.

CYNTHIA LONG
Director
Child Nutrition Division