

## Summer Meals Grant Application - 2026

Deadline: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

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### Overview

GENYOUTH's Summer Meals 2026 Pilot will provide school districts in Georgia and Arkansas flexible cash grants (up to \$10,000) to strengthen summer meal participation and operational readiness.

This pilot is intentionally designed to be focused, replicable, measurable, and complementary to existing state efforts.

#### Eligibility

- To be eligible to receive grant funding, your district must:
  - be located in the state of Arkansas or Georgia, and
  - be an approved Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Sponsor in addition to participating in the National School Lunch Program
- Grants may support operational costs (staffing, outreach, incentives, marketing, transportation, enrichment supports) and/or capital investments (equipment, point-of-service systems, cold storage, etc.) that directly contribute to participation growth.
- School districts will be evaluated to receive grant funding based on a variety of factors, including the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price school meals, potential reach of summer meals program, and community support to add or extend program sites to reach more children.

#### How to Apply

- Complete and submit the [online application](#) by **Tuesday, April 14, 2026**.
- All applications submitted by midnight EDT on April 14, 2026, will be reviewed, and approvals/notifications will be made in May 2026.
- Grants are expected to be awarded by June 1, 2026.

#### Reporting

If approved, your school will be expected to submit an online report by September 30, 2026, which will require:

- The impact of your initiative on your students, staff, school, and community.
- Total number of serving days
- Total number of serving sites
- Total number of meals served (Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks combined)

Failure to comply with the required reporting may inhibit your district from receiving future funding.

#### Application Assistance

For technical assistance with the application, please contact the [GENYOUTH Help Desk](#).

# Sample Application – Summer Meals Grant Application 2026

## District Contact Information

Your Name:

Your Job Title:

Your Email Address:

Child Nutrition Director Name:

Child Nutrition Director Phone Number:

Child Nutrition Director Email Address:

District Name:

District 9-Digit Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN):

*(Note: This is a 9-digit number in the following format XX-XXXXXXX. Also called the Tax ID Number or the Federal EIN. It is NOT the same as tax-exempt number or State EIN.)*

## Check Information

Funding Recipient *(Paid to the order of)*:

To whose attention should the check be sent?

### Mailing Address

Building Name:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

## Current District Meal Program Information

Does your district have an afterschool/weekend meals or snacks program?

- Yes
- No

Is your district an Approved Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Sponsor?

- Yes
- No

What summer meals model does/will your district offer? (Select all that apply.)

- Congregate (meals are served and consumed on site)
- Non-congregate (multi-day meal delivery and/or pickup models)

## Anticipated Program Data

Please provide answers to the questions below based on your goals for the summer 2026 program. If funding is approved, you will be asked to provide the actual data points for the summer 2026 program in your fall reporting.

**Anticipated Number of Serving Days:**

**Anticipated Number of Serving Sites:**

**Anticipated Number of Meals Served (Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks combined):**

## Past Program Data

Please provide answers to the questions below based on data from the summer 2025 program.

**Note: If you did not have a summer 2025 program, please enter zeroes (0).**

**Anticipated Number of Serving Days:**

**Anticipated Number of Serving Sites:**

**Anticipated Number of Meals Served (Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks combined):**

## Budget

Funding for the GENYOUth Summer Meals 2026 Pilot may support operational costs (staffing, outreach, marketing, incentives, transportation, or enrichment supports), and/or capital investments (equipment for preparing, storing, packaging or serving meals, and/or point-of-service equipment or systems). **The total budget may not exceed \$10,000.**

Available Budget Categories – please place all requested items in the same category on one line:

- Equipment for preparation of food (e.g., cutting boards, scales, food processors, ovens, etc.)
- Equipment for storage, packaging or serving meals (e.g., coolers, refrigerators, thermometers, clamshells, tables, etc.)
- Point-of-sale equipment or systems
- Enrichment Supports (e.g., educational programs, physical activities, crafts, etc.)
- Marketing & Outreach
- Staffing
- Transportation

Budget/Funding Category	Description of Item(s)	Amount Requested

**For any operational items requested (e.g., staffing, outreach, marketing, transportation, enrichment activities), please explain how they will drive participation growth and be sustained over time. If none requested, please enter N/A.**

[Your text here]

**For any capital items requested (equipment for meal preparation, storage, etc., or POS systems), please detail the use of the equipment and how they fill infrastructure needs. If none requested, please enter N/A.**

[Your text here]

**Please share any lessons learned from past program implementations, describe any new program elements you will implement for 2026, and explain how funding can impact future participation.**

[Your text here]

## **Grant Guidelines and Terms**

**In order to submit this application:**

- Read the Guidelines and Terms below.
- Check the box below to indicate you have read and agree to the terms.
  - I have read and agree to the terms below.

**Funding Guidelines and Terms**

- If the application is approved, your district must comply with all reporting requirements where you will be asked to document the use and impact of the funding (See the Reporting section below).
- Limit one award per district, not to exceed \$10,000.
- GENYOUth's Summer Meals funding opportunity is meant to strengthen summer meal participation and operational readiness.
- Districts are eligible to apply even if they have received other funding to support health, physical activity and wellness.
- Applicants will receive email notification of decisions in April 2026. If approved, your award will be mailed in May 2026.

**Reporting**

Districts that receive an award must complete online reporting by September 30, 2026. The report will require the following information:

- Total Number of Serving Days
- Total Number of Serving Sites
- Total Number of Meals Served (Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks combined)

Failure to comply with the required reporting may prohibit your district from receiving future funding.

## **Use of Funding**

- Funding requested as part of this application cannot be changed once the application is submitted.
- Grant recipient agrees to use the funding as outlined in the approved application form.
- Recipient will not use funding to:
  - Influence legislation
  - Influence the outcome of any public election or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive
  - Make any grant to any other individual or organization
  - Undertake any activity other than for charitable, scientific or educational purposes

## **Other Terms**

- Funding awarded is the property of the district that is approved and may not be transferred to another district, institution or individual without prior written approval of the funder.
- Districts receiving funding agree to provide information about use of the funds if requested by GENYOUth.
- All information provided to GENYOUth in connection with the GENYOUth Summer Meals Application, including all related communications, is true, correct and complete.
- Funding recipient will maintain complete and accurate records for the program and will make such records available to GENYOUth upon request.
- Funding recipient agrees to share success, if requested, to demonstrate progress made toward strengthening summer meal participation and operational readiness.