

1 AN ACT relating to school meals at low-income schools.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (a) "Community eligibility provision" means the school meal reimbursement
7 program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture to
8 reimburse low-income schools for offering no-charge meals to all enrolled
9 students governed by 7 C.F.R. pt. 245;

10 (b) "Identified student percentage" means the percentage of student population
11 used by the United States Department of Agriculture to determine the
12 eligibility and reimbursement rate of a school, group of schools, or school
13 district for the community eligibility provision; and

14 (c) "Paid rate" means the partial reimbursement rate a school participating in
15 the community eligibility provision receives for providing a no-charge
16 school breakfast or lunch that is not eligible for reimbursement at the free
17 rate through the community eligibility provision.

18 (2) There is hereby created a restricted fund to be known as Kentucky Proud School
19 Match Program fund. The fund shall be administered by the Kentucky
20 Department of Education. Moneys in the fund shall be used by the department to
21 reimburse school districts that participate in the Kentucky Proud School Match
22 Program in accordance with subsection (3) of this section. The fund shall contain
23 moneys received from the general fund, federal funds, and any other proceeds
24 from contributions, gifts, or grants made available for the purposes of the fund.
25 Interest earned on the moneys in the fund shall accrue to the fund.
26 Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, any moneys remaining in the fund at the close of
27 the fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the succeeding

- 1 fiscal year to be used by the department for the purposes set forth in this section.
- 2 (3) The Kentucky Proud School Match Program is hereby established to reduce the
3 financial burden of eligible school districts participating in the community
4 eligibility provision. Subject to the availability of funds, the Kentucky Department
5 of Education shall reimburse an eligible school district thirty-three cents (\$0.33)
6 from the Kentucky Proud School Match Program fund for each meal that is:
- 7 (a) Reimbursed by the United States Department of Agriculture through the
8 community eligibility provision at the paid rate; and
- 9 (b) Provided by a school participating in the community eligibility provision
10 that qualifies individually, as part of a group of schools, or as part of a
11 district with an identified student percentage of at least forty percent (40%).
- 12 (4) A school district with at least one (1) school or group of schools participating in
13 the community eligibility provision shall be eligible to participate in the Kentucky
14 Proud School Match Program upon development and implementation of a
15 Kentucky Proud school plan to:
- 16 (a) Identify and purchase available Kentucky-grown agricultural products that
17 meet the applicable quality standards and pricing requirements of the
18 school district. The plan may prioritize the purchase of Kentucky Proud
19 agricultural products; and
- 20 (b) Optimize food usage in the district's school nutrition programs in order to
21 reduce food waste in the district. Districts are encouraged to incorporate the
22 use of a share table program in the Kentucky Proud school plan.
- 23 (5) The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations in
24 accordance with KRS Chapter 13A necessary to carry out this section, including
25 an application form for the Kentucky Proud School Match Program, a sample
26 Kentucky Proud school plan, and method of data collection to measure the
27 impact of the Kentucky Proud School Match Program.

1 (6) In the event that the United States Department of Agriculture terminates the
2 community eligibility provision, the provisions of this section shall be considered
3 null and void.

4 ➔ Section 2. This Act may be cited as the Kentucky Proud School Match Act.