

Ontario Student Nutrition Program

PROGRAM BINDER

2025/26
SCHOOL YEAR





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ABOUT OSNP

MISSION

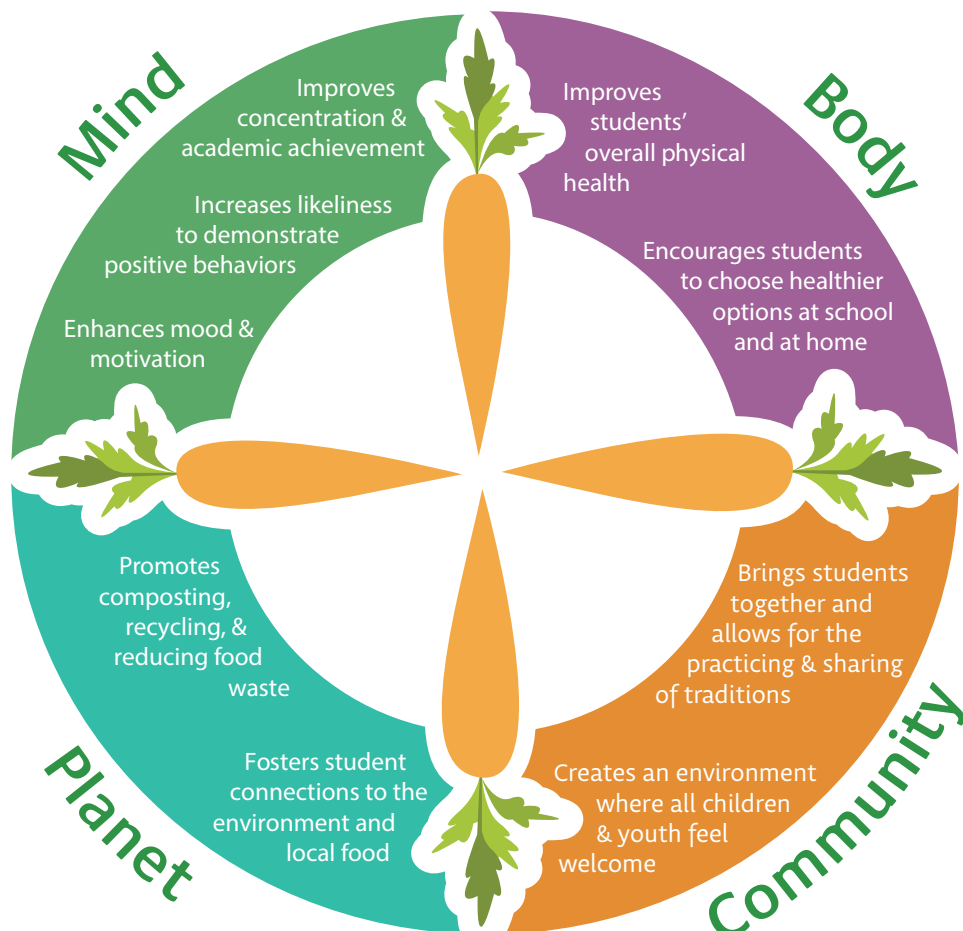
To work with youth, educators, and community to provide universal school food access and promote a school food culture that enhances student wellbeing and success.

VISION

That all students in Southwestern Ontario have access to nourishing food, providing the fuel they need to succeed at school and beyond.

IMPACT

“[Student Nutrition Programs] help provide school-age children and youth across Ontario with access to nutritious meals and/or snacks in schools so that they are engaged in their learning, experience a sense of belonging at school, and develop healthy eating habits.” – Student Nutrition Ontario



NUTRITIOUS FOODS

Always refer to the MCCSS nutrition guidelines when purchasing food items for your program. Found on our website here: www.osnp.ca/resources

Look for foods that are:

- Minimally processed
- A good source of nutrients such as fiber, calcium, and iron
- Low in sugar, sodium, and saturated fat

Ensure a veg/fruit is offered with every snack or meal

REPORTING

You are required to report on:

- The number of days the program operates
- The number of healthy snack/meals prepared that month (#students per day x #days)
- The number of volunteers supporting your program (including staff members) and the total number of volunteer hours
- Donated items and/or donated/fundraised/granted funds
- Receipts of food purchased and served in your Student Nutrition Program (SNP)

Each monthly report must be submitted by the 10th day of the following month

Below is a breakdown of reporting requirements for the School Food Delivery (SFD) and Direct Deposit streams.

SFD Stream: Invoices for items delivered through SFD DO NOT need to be uploaded. Receipts for items served as part of your OSNP program purchased by the school with school generated funds DO need to be uploaded.

Direct Deposit Stream: all receipts for items purchased by the school and served as part of your OSNP program DO need to be uploaded, including those purchased with school generated funds.

FOOD SAFETY

Safe Food Handling is an important part of running a Student Nutrition Program (SNP)

- Ensure Food Handlers Certification practices are followed when serving food in your SNP
- Keep track of the year the Certification was completed, as renewal is required every 5 years
- A condensed, School Food Program specific version of the Food Handlers Certification is available through Student Nutrition Ontario, found at <https://osnp.ca/food-safety/>
This certification is fully online and free of charge. Traditional Food Handlers Certification is also acceptable and available through your local health unit.

Ensure at least one member of your team is Food Handlers Certified

FUNDRAISING

SNPs utilize two categories of funding, The OSNP Grant and School Generated Funds

- **The OSNP Grant:** SNPs in Ontario operate as a cost shared model. The OSNP Grant is startup funding for your student nutrition programs
- **School Generated Funds:** Schools are required to fundraise to ensure their program has the appropriate amount of funding, food, and resources.

If your Student Nutrition Program (SNP) is not supplemented with raised funds, it is not possible to operate at full capacity.

A fundraising resource will be available on our website: www.osnp.ca/resources

OSNP operates on a cost shared model. Aim to fundraise to support your student nutrition program

DIRECT DEPOSIT STREAM

- The OSNP Grant will be deposited in 3 installments, at the start of each program phase (Sept, Jan, April)
 - *Tip: budget your funding to finish up at the end of the phase it was deposited, you will receive a new deposit for the next phase. If you do not spend funds in the time-frame they are intended for, you risk the next deposit being reduced or held back in an attempt to avoid a surplus*
- All OSNP funds must be spent by the end of the school year. OSNP reserves the right to request that unspent funds be returned or removed from future grant deposits.
- Your spending is reflected in the receipts uploaded to your monthly reports, please ensure these are accurate.

SCHOOL FOOD DELIVERY (SFD) STREAM

- The SFD Program is an opportunity for schools to participate in OSNPs bulk purchasing program. Schools pre-pay for a phase, or the entire school year, and OSNPs Food and Logistics team coordinates the purchase of two produce or other items to be delivered to your school weekly.
- The OSNP Grant covers a portion of the SFD Program Cost which will be paid directly from OSNP to our delivery partner, Produce Express. The remaining balance will be invoiced to the school for payment to Produce Express with School Generated Funds. Schools must pre-pay for each phase.
- All items will be unwashed and whole
- In order to make changes to your delivery, please reach out to your CDC before Tuesday at 12pm of the week before that delivery
- The weekly menu is available on our website: www.osnp.ca under the Direct Delivery Programming tab, under School Food Delivery
- Additional items can be ordered from Produce Express to be delivered alongside your SFD delivery.
 - All orders must be placed by 11:59PM the Wednesday before delivery
 - For any inquiries or to create an account, call (519) 539-9333 ext. 7 or email schools@fresherproduce.ca

Regardless of the program stream (SFD or Direct Deposit), your school will be enrolled in either a snack or meal program, each requires:

SNACK MODEL

- **1 Veg/fruit + 1 other food group** (Protein or Whole grain)
 - These food groups will be reflected in uploaded receipts



SFD Stream:

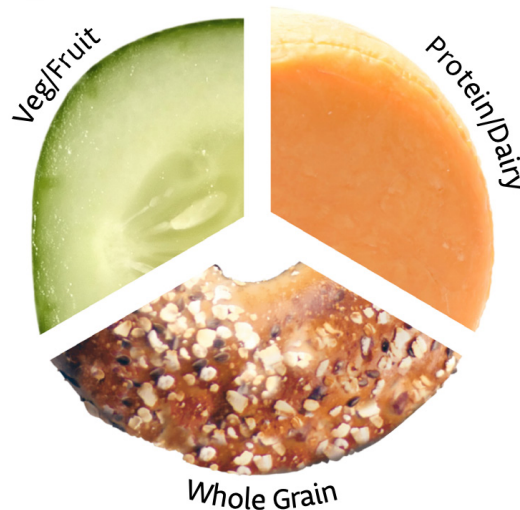
- Veg/fruit items are delivered
- Whole grain and/or protein items must be purchased

Direct Deposit Stream:

- Veg/fruit items must be purchased
- Whole grain, and/or protein items must be purchased

MEAL MODEL

- **1 Veg/fruit + 2 other food group** (Protein & Whole grain)
 - These food groups will be reflected in uploaded receipts



SFD Stream:

- Veg/fruit items are delivered
- Both whole grain and protein items must be purchased

Direct Deposit Stream:

- Veg/fruit, whole grain, and protein items must be purchased

All items must meet MCCSS Nutrition Guidelines. A sample menu can be found at: www.osnp.ca/resources

PHASE 1: SEPT, OCT, NOV, DEC

- Direct Deposit Stream programs will receive the first installment of their grant deposit in the first week of Sept
- SFD payment for Phase 1 is due **Sept 15, 2025**
- SFD programs will begin to receive Veg/Fruit deliveries on **Sept 29, 2025**
- Site visits will take place Oct-Dec
- Opportunity for Direct Deposit Stream programs to enroll in Phase 2 of SFD, your CDC will be in touch
- SFD payment for Phase 2 is due **Dec 1, 2025**

PHASE 2: JAN, FEB, MARCH

- Direct Deposit Stream programs will receive the second installment of their grant deposit in the first week of Jan
- **March is Nutrition month!**
- March 5th is the **National Great Big Crunch!**
- Opportunity for Direct Deposit Stream programs to enroll in Phase 3 of SFD, your CDC will be in touch
- SFD payment for Phase 3 is due **March 1, 2026**

PHASE 3: APRIL, MAY, JUNE

- Direct Deposit Stream programs will receive the third and final installment of their grant deposit the final week of March
- **VON week is celebrated in May!**
- **The first week of June is local food week!**
- The final week of SFD deliveries is **June 8, 2026**
- All programs will complete a program renewal application with the option to enroll in Phase 1 of SFD for the 2025/26 school year

SITE VISITS

We want to come see the great work you are doing! The annual site visit is intended to provide support to your Student Nutrition Program (SNP) as well as check-in on operations to ensure your program is well equipped for success.

- Your CDC will reach out to set up an in-person site visit around Oct/Nov, this will occur a minimum of one time per year
- Focus will be on the topics of Nutrition, Food Safety, Equity/Inclusion, Engagement, Program Planning, Program Sustainability, and Food Literacy. Reference Appendix ___ Gold Standard Student Nutrition Program for examples in each category.
- Prepare to go through day to day operations with your CDC and be ready with any questions or comments

*A sample site visit form is available on our website:
www.osnp.ca/resources*



YEAR END

For a smooth transition into the next school year, take some time to close up your Student Nutrition Program before summer break.

- Take an inventory of foods left in your pantry and/or fridge around May, check expiry dates
- Aim to have spending completed by second last week of June and prepare to have your June report completed by the last week of June
 - *Tip: reference your Year to Date report to keep track of funds and to make sure your receipts match*
- Your CDC will reach out to discuss surplus funding and leftover gift cards and vouchers

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM

Find all resources to support your student nutrition program at <https://osnp.ca/resources/>

Here you will be able to find:

- Gold Standard Student Nutrition Program: which outlines the core pillars of SNPs and examples of ways to elevate your program
- Webtracker Guide: a step by step breakdown of how to complete your monthly report
- Nutrition Guidelines: provincial guidelines that your student nutrition program must follow
- Sample Menu and Recipes for SNPs: ideas for what to serve in your program
- Fundraising toolkit: strategies to fundraise for your program
- Local Public Health Inspector: your health inspector contact, **please print and post in your nutrition room**
- Food Prep and Safety Tips: tips for practicing food safety when preparing food to serve in your program
- Produce Storage Guide: tips for storing produce for longevity and freshness

Resources specific to the SFD program

- School Food Delivery Manual: all about how the SFD program works and what to expect
- School Food Delivery FAQ: answers to frequently asked questions about the SFD program

OSNP is continuously adding to our resource page so be sure to check it out for the most up to date information on supporting your student nutrition program!

When do my monthly reports need to be completed?

By the 10th of the following month. For instance, your September report is due by October 10th.

What receipts do I need to upload?

All receipts for items served as part of your OSNP program, purchased with OSNP funds and/or fundraised/donated/granted funds need to be uploaded.

I receive an error message when attempting to upload receipts, what do I do?

This likely means the file you are attempting to upload is too large. Try uploading multiple smaller files as opposed to one large one. Please note: only PDF, JPG, and PNG file types are accepted.

How do I report different types of funding?

- **OSNP grant funding** is from the provincial government, specifically, the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services. The sum of these funds DOES NOT need to be inputted on your monthly report nor noted as a donation. Please upload receipts of all purchases made with these funds.
- **Toonies for Tummies** funding is from the Grocery Foundation and allocated through OSNP. The sum of these funds DOES NOT need to be inputted on your monthly report or notated as a donation. Please upload receipts of all purchases made with these funds.
- **Breakfast Clubs of Canada (BCC)** funding is from Breakfast Clubs of Canada and allocated through OSNP. The sum of these funds DOES NOT need to be inputted on your monthly report or notated as a donation. Please upload receipts of all purchases made with these funds.
- **School generated funds** (ex. Presidents Choice Children's Charity, fundraised funds, donations receive by the school). These funds DO need to be inputted on your monthly report. In the month funds are received, input the lump sum under Section D. "Funding Sources". Please upload receipts of purchases made towards your OSNP program with these funds
- *Please note: School generated funds should be used according to expectations assigned upon acquisition. All purchases made toward your OSNP program must meet MCCSS Nutrition Guidelines regardless of funding source.*

What are day to day operations?

- Shopping, preparing, and serving program food
- Recording the number of days run, snacks/meals served, volunteer hours, and all receipts for the month
- Submitting completed monthly reports on time (by the 10th of the following month)
- Establishing weekly menus based on MCCSS Nutrition Guidelines
- Fundraising to support your SNP