



# CONNECTICUT H.R.1 IMPACT

RECENT PROVISIONS IN H.R. 1, SIGNED INTO LAW ON JULY 4, 2025, SHIFT COSTS FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) AND IMPOSE NEW MEDICAID AND SNAP WORK REQUIREMENTS.

THESE MEASURES WILL HAVE DIRECT AND HARMFUL IMPACTS ON CONNECTICUT'S STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO RELY ON FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS.



# HR.1 IMPACTS ON CONNECTICUT SCHOOL MEALS

HR 1's SNAP cost-shifting and Medicaid work requirements threaten Connecticut school meal access. The state faces a \$132.8 million annual burden from SNAP cost-sharing, forcing difficult choices between paying new costs or cutting program eligibility. Reduced SNAP and Medicaid enrollment would decrease direct certification rates, threatening CEP viability and undermining state nutrition investments.

## By the Numbers

### SNAP Impact:

- [FY 24 SNAP Error Rate](#): 10.25% (8.61% overpayments + 1.65% underpayments)
- [BBCE](#): SNAP eligibility up to 200% FPL (up to \$55,500 for family of 4)
- **New State Burden:**
  - Benefit cost: \$132.8 million annually/ \$11.1 million monthly\*
  - Increase [the state share of administrative costs](#): \$32.5 million in SFY 2027 and \$42.7 million annually beginning in SFY 2028.

\*Based on Connecticut's [2024 SNAP benefits totaling \\$885 million](#) × 15% state cost-share rate (triggered by 10.25% error rate exceeding 6% threshold under HR 1)

### Medicaid Impact:

- Free meals: 30,135 students certified through Medicaid
- Reduced-price meals: 12,688 students certified through Medicaid
- Total Medicaid-certified students: 42,823 students

### State Level School Meal Investments at Risk:

- [Annual state match](#): \$2.35 million for NSLP
- [State School Breakfast Grant Program](#): \$3,000 per severe need school
- [Healthy Food Certification incentive](#): 10 cents per lunch for qualifying districts

### Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) :

[CEP](#) viability depends on SNAP and Medicaid direct certification rates that HR.1 will reduce

- [518 CEP schools](#) in CT
- 34 schools < 40% ISP: CEP eligibility at risk
- 248 schools at 40-59% ISP: Significant federal reimbursement loss
- 236 schools at 60%+ ISP: Some federal reimbursement loss

### SNACT Goals:

- Reduce SNAP Error Rate
- Maintain BBCE (Broad Based Community Eligibility)
- Protect Medicaid Direct Certification and Expansion
- Protect State-level Investments



## Links/Resources

### **Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Analysis of P.L. 119-21 Impacts, August 8, 2025**

State legislature requested budgetary estimates.

<https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/26045876/obbba-letter-8825-final.pdf>

### **Connecticut State Department of Education - Financial Management:**

Details on state funding sources for school nutrition programs.

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Financial-Management-for-School-Nutrition-Programs/Related-Resources>

### **HR 1 (One Big Beautiful Bill) Official Text:**

Full text of the law signed July 4, 2025, containing SNAP and Medicaid provisions affecting school meal access. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text>

### **USDA FY 2024 SNAP Error Rates by State:**

Official state-by-state payment error rates that determine SNAP cost-sharing requirements under HR 1 (5-15% state match based on error rates). <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/qc/per>

### **CBPP Analysis of HR 1 SNAP Cost-Shifting:**

State-specific financial burden from requiring states to pay portion of SNAP benefits based on error rates. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/senate-republican-leaders-proposal-risks-deep-cuts-to-food-assistance-some>

### **Direct Certification in NSLP Report to Congress (SY 2017-2019):**

Shows state-by-state progress on SNAP-to-school meals coordination demonstrating how HR. 1 SNAP cuts will reduce free and reduced-price meal eligibility in each state.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/cn/direct-certification-nslp-state-implementation-progress>

### **USDA Medicaid Direct Certification Study (SY 2019-20):**

Medicaid-based direct certification increased eligible student identification in 15 demonstration states. HR 1's Medicaid work requirements could reduce enrollment, causing these students to lose automatic meal eligibility. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/cn/dcm-frp-demonstration>

### **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Database:**

State-by-state data on schools participating in CEP. Fewer directly certified students threatens CEP viability. <https://frac.org/community-eligibility-database/>

### **CBPP Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) Analysis:**

Research on BBCE benefits. States facing SNAP cost-sharing may eliminate BBCE to reduce caseloads. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/snaps-broad-based-categorical-eligibility-supports-working-families-and>

# School Nutrition Association of Connecticut

*www.snact.org*

Our members are the authorities on CT School Nutrition Programs

## Who We Are

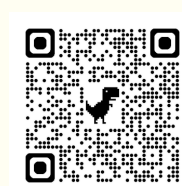
The School Nutrition Association of Connecticut (SNACT) is a state affiliate of the National School Nutrition Association. SNACT has been advancing the availability, quality and acceptance of school nutrition programs as an integral part of the educational experience since 1949. We are a professional organization representing 500 members and more than 50% of all school districts. Our members provide high-quality nutritious meals to students across Connecticut. School food service departments are often “the largest restaurant in town” and in addition to providing students with meals they are an economic stimulator for local residents, businesses and farmers.

## Our Priorities

As school nutrition professionals, we witness daily the profound impact that access to nutritious meals has on students’ ability to learn and thrive. Ensuring that every student has access to nutritious meals that are vital to their academic success and well-being, regardless of their financial situation, is our top priority.



[SNACT.org](http://www.snact.org)



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