



THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY NUTRITION PROGRAMS BRANCH

# SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM

[www.eatsmartmaryland.org](http://www.eatsmartmaryland.org)

## What is the Special Milk Program (SMP)?

The SMP provides cash reimbursement for half-pints of milk served to eligible children in schools, child care centers, summer camps, and other non-profit organizations. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is administered by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

## Benefits

- Increased milk consumption for children
- Cash reimbursement for milk
- Training and technical assistance, educational workshops, and other resources are available

## Who Can Participate?

Children 21 and under at participating schools.  
Children 19 and under at other types of organizations .

## How are Sponsors Reimbursed?

The two rates of reimbursement, set by the USDA, are for paid half-pints and free half-pints.

Monthly reimbursement is based on:

- the number of half-pints served to eligible children multiplied by the rate of reimbursement  
Or
- The average cost of all milk purchased.

## Eligible Program Sponsors

Organizations eligible to participate in the SMP include:

- Public or private nonprofit schools
- Public or private nonprofit residential summer camps
- Private, nonprofit day cares and organizations
- Some homeless shelters
- Those sites not participating in another USDA funded meal program

**To Start a Program or  
Find a Site Near You,  
Contact MSDE!**



***Learn More!***

**Maryland State Department of Education  
School & Community Nutrition Programs Branch**

**410-767-0214**

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