Why Participate?

Participating schools can:

- Get recognized nationally and earn monetary awards!

Gold Award of Distinction	$2,000
Gold Award	$1,500
Silver Award	$1,000
Bronze Award	$500

- Build school spirit, cooperation, and proudly display the HealthierUS banner and plaque as a symbol of their school's achievement.

- Be a leader in efforts to end childhood obesity. The HealthierUS School Challenge helps you form a school team and learn from what's worked at other schools.

How Can I Apply?

For more information, the application, success stories, and other resources, visit the Team Nutrition Web site: *http://teamnutrition.usda.gov* and click on HealthierUS School Challenge.

For additional information, you may also contact your State Child Nutrition Agency.

State Agency Contact Information:

"As a food service director who has seen firsthand how the HealthierUS School Challenge can have positive effects on our school and school improvement, I would wholeheartedly encourage anyone in a similar position to begin the journey and enjoy similar success."

David Roberts, Food Service Director
Maine School Administrative District #52
Turner, ME

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USDA United States Department of Agriculture

HealthierUS School Challenge

TEAM NUTRITION • USDA

Recognizing Excellence in Nutrition and Physical Activity

Take the HealthierUS School Challenge!

Schools play an important role in helping to reduce childhood obesity. Kids who have healthy eating patterns and get regular physical activity are also more likely to perform better academically.

That's why the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers the HealthierUS School Challenge to support the over 101,000 schools that participate in school meals programs in their efforts to promote nutritious food choices and physical activity.

What Is the HealthierUS School Challenge?

- The HealthierUS School Challenge is a voluntary certification initiative that has recognized thousands of schools for their efforts in improving food and beverage offerings, teaching kids about nutritious food choices and being physically active, providing opportunities for physical activity, and having supportive school wellness policies.
- Participation in the HealthierUS School Challenge is voluntary and certifies schools that meet specific criteria at four award levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Gold Award of Distinction.

Who Can Apply?

Schools are eligible to apply if they:

- Participate in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
- Are a USDA Team Nutrition school. Registering as a Team Nutrition school is easy, free, and connects you with free nutrition education and food service training materials for your school. Learn more at *http://teamnutrition.usda.gov*.
- Meet or exceed all HealthierUS School Challenge criteria for the desired award level relating to the following:
  - School Breakfast and Lunch Offerings
  - Foods Sold Outside of the School Meal Programs (such as in vending machines and à la carte)
  - Average Daily Participation for the SBP and NSLP (for Silver awards and higher)
  - Nutrition Education
  - Physical Education
  - Opportunities for Physical Activity
  - School Wellness Policies and Practices
  - A Menu of Other Criteria of Excellence From Which Schools Select