

# School Meals: Do the Math

90%

**90%** of school-age children (ages 4-18) are not meeting their recommended daily vegetable needs.<sup>1</sup>

But USDA is proposing **servicing limits** on popular vegetables, like potatoes, corn and peas in school meals.

Potatoes are a '**delivery vegetable**' – when potatoes are served, a wider variety of vegetables are eaten.<sup>2</sup>

**31 million lunches** are served to school children each day.<sup>3</sup>

That's a lot of opportunity to offer vegetables like potatoes that **kids actually like and will eat!**

\$6.8 Billion

**\$6.8 billion** = USDA-estimated **increase** in cost for proposed changes to school meals.

**\$0.06** = USDA additional reimbursement per meal.

But it will cost:  
**\$0.14 more** per lunch.  
**\$0.50 more** per breakfast.

**It doesn't add up!**

<sup>1</sup> Krebs-Smith et al, J. Nutr. 2010

<sup>2</sup> Drewnowski et al, poster presented at Experimental Biology, 2011

<sup>3</sup> USDA FNS, 2009