

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM DIRECTOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BY LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY SIZE

Minimum requirements for directors	Student enrollment 2,499 or less	Student enrollment 2,500-9,999	Student enrollment 10,000 or more
Minimum Education Standards (required) (<i>new directors only</i>)	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field;	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field;	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field;
	OR	OR	OR
	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with any academic major or area of concentration, <i>and</i> either a State-recognized certificate for school nutrition directors or at least 1 year of relevant food service experience;	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with any academic major or area of concentration, <i>and</i> a State-recognized certificate for school nutrition directors;	Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with any academic major or area of concentration, <i>and</i> a State-recognized certificate for school nutrition directors;
	OR	OR	OR
	Associate's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field, <i>and</i> at least 1 year of relevant food service experience; OR High school diploma (or GED) <i>and</i> 3 years of relevant food service experience.	Bachelor's degree in any academic major <i>and</i> at least 2 years of relevant school nutrition program experience; OR Associate's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field, <i>and</i> at least 2 years of relevant school nutrition program experience.	Bachelor's degree in any major <i>and</i> at least 5 years of experience in management of school nutrition programs.
Minimum Education Standards (preferred) (<i>new directors only</i>)	Directors hired without an associate's degree are strongly encouraged to work toward attaining an associate's degree upon hiring.	Directors hired without a bachelor's degree are strongly encouraged to work toward attaining a bachelor's degree upon hiring.	Master's degree, or willingness to work toward a master's degree, preferred.
			At least 1 year of management experience, preferably in school nutrition, is strongly recommended. At least 3 credit hours at the university level in food service management plus at least 3 credit hours in nutritional sciences at time of hiring is strongly preferred.
Minimum Prior Training Standards (required) (<i>new directors only</i>)	At least 8 hours of food safety training is required either not more than 5 years prior to their starting date or completed within 30 calendar days of employee's starting date.		