

# Goal: Getting Payments Right

**Program or Activity**  
School Breakfast

**Reporting Period**  
Q4 2019

**Change from Previous FY (\$M)**

**-\$660M**

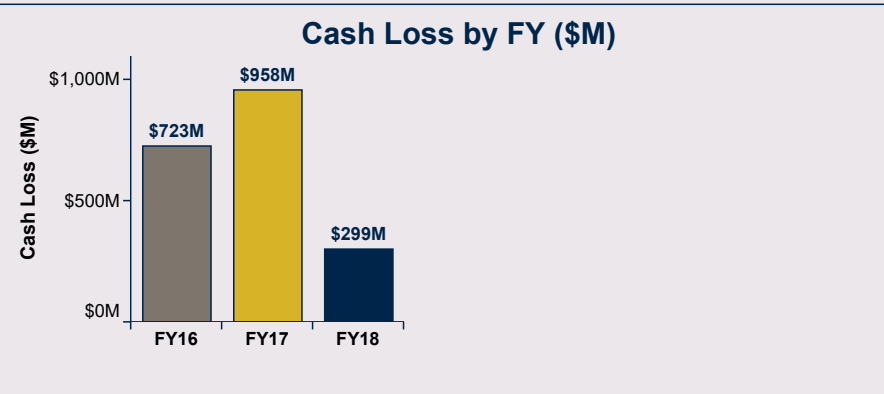


**Brief Program Description:**

School Breakfast Program (SBP) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free meals to children.

**Key Milestones**

		Status	ECD
1	Finalize estimated cash loss estimation methodology	Completed	Oct-18
2	Identify estimated cash loss amount for FY 2018	Completed	Oct-18
3	Identify true root causes of cash loss	Completed	Oct-18
4	Develop mitigation strategies to get the payment right the first time	Completed	Oct-18
5	Evaluate the ROI of the mitigation strategy	Completed	Oct-18
6	Determine which strategies have the best ROI to prevent cash loss	Completed	Oct-18



**Quarterly Progress Goals**

			Status	Notes	ECD
1	Q4 2019	Work with state agencies that received USDA Administrative Review and Training (ART) grants to acquire/build or explore building statewide online household applications for school meal benefits.	On-Track	Encourage those states to adopt integrity features comparable to those in USDA's prototype online application.	Apr-20
2	Q4 2019	Analysis of preliminary results from the school year 2017-2018 school meal program improper payment study (Access, Participation, Eligibility, and Certification Study III).	On-Track	N/A	Jun-20

**Recent Accomplishments**

		Date
1	FNS awarded \$13 million in Technology Innovation Grants in July to 13 states for a variety of projects to improve program accountability and efficiency in the school meal programs and other child nutrition programs at the state and local levels.	Jul-19
2	Completed work (in cooperation with GSA's 18F) on a new service to improve the quality of administrative data collected from the states on the NSLP and SBP verification process. Will release in October 2019.	Sep-19
3	FNS awarded ART grants to 7 states for projects to reduce and prevent administrative error. Three of those states will build or explore building statewide applications for NSLP benefits.	Sep-19

FY18 Amt(\$)	Root Cause	Root Cause Description	Mitigation Strategy	Anticipated Impact of Mitigation
\$151M	Program design or structural issues	Household errors on applications for school meal benefits place children in the wrong benefit category. Households do not submit income documentation at application time, and just 3% of approved applicants are selected for follow-up verification.	USDA developed and promotes the use of online applications that target household error. The agency is also focused on improving the effectiveness of the application and verification processes through research, new tools, and technical assistance.	USDA believes that widespread use of applications that target the type of household error identified by USDA's nationwide study of program error (conducted in satisfaction of IPIA requirements) will improve benefit certification accuracy.

**Cash Loss** - Cash loss to the Government includes amounts that should not have been paid and in theory should/could be recovered.