



4 March 2025

Dustin Holfinger
Ohio House Education Committee
HB 96 – Interested Party
American Heart Association Budget requests

Include Additional Funding for Ohio High Schools to Ensure That All Graduating Students Meet the CPR Training Curriculum Requirement

REQUEST – Appropriate \$606,800/year to GRF 200597 (Program and Project Support) to specifically cover this additional cost of training

- Ohio is expected to have 121,360 students in this incoming senior class.
- The appropriation amount is determined by multiplying the number of projected regular public-school graduates by \$5. The \$5 is based on an “average” per student cost to provide non-credentialed CPR training.
- Ohio's age-adjusted rate of heart disease deaths is 12th highest in the nation, at 193.9 per 100,000. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Ohio, accounting for more than one in five deaths. 2022 – 30,041 (6th highest in the nation)
- During cardiac arrest, immediate CPR can double or triple a person's chance of survival.

Provide Healthy School Meals for All Ohio Children

Starting in March 2020, USDA provided waivers to schools, allowing them to serve meals at no cost to all students.

- **School meals have been a lifeline for struggling families, but waivers from the pandemic have expired**, leaving schools and students in Ohio without access to free school meals for all students.
- After June 2022, when the waiver expired, many families lost access to free school meals. Providing healthy school meals at no cost for every student in Ohio – regardless of income – is a critical investment in improving the health and well-being of Ohio's students. ▪ Providing healthy meals will help to end child hunger in schools and strengthen our education and health system.
 - Per HB 33 from the 135th GA, households qualify for free lunches if their income is at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level. The 185% federal poverty level (FPL) for 2025 is:
 - 1 person: \$27,861 for a household of one person
 - 2 people: \$37,814 for a household of two people
 - 3 people: \$47,767 for a household of three people
 - 4 people: \$57,720 for a household of four people