



# Introducing LEAP Awards



**LEAP**

**Leaders in Eating &  
Activity Practices**

## What is LEAP?

- An annual recognition awards program to recognize sites that achieve significant milestones in best practices for healthy eating and physical activity
- Determined by practices measured on Learn-setting SLAQs

## Who is eligible for a LEAP award?

- Schools, out-of-school time (OST) programs, and early care and education (ECE) sites that complete and submit a Learn-setting SLAQ



# How does it work?

There are two ways sites can earn a LEAP award.

1. Comprehensive accomplishment of best practices across the different areas measured on the SLAQ in three tiers

**Gold**



**Silver**



**Bronze**



2. Accomplishments for best practices in five specific areas



**Nutrition**



**Physical  
Activity**



**Gardens**



**Family  
Engagement**



**Breastfeeding  
Support**

*To assign gold -silver -bronze tiers, SLAQ sections were classified as Core and Complementary using IWP guidance:*

**“Core” sections** ask primarily about practices related to core IWP strategies, which are considered essential to intervention effectiveness

**“Complementary” sections** ask primarily about practices related to complementary IWP strategies, which should be implemented in conjunction with core strategies

# How tiered awards are assigned



**Gold**

**70%** score in all  
**core sections**



**70%** score in **2 or more**  
**complementary** sections



**Silver**

**70%** score in all  
**core sections**



**70%** score in **1**  
**complementary** section



**Bronze**

**70%** score in all  
**core sections**

## Core and Complementary Sections used for LEAP Tiers

Section	Schools	Out of School Time (OST)	Early Care and Education (ECE)
1	<i>Wellness Policies and Meal Program Participation</i>	<i>Wellness Policies and Meal Program Participation</i>	<i>Wellness Policies and Meal Program Participation</i>
2	<i>Meals and School Meal Environment</i>	<i>Meal and Snack Foods and Beverages</i>	<i>Meal and Snack Foods and Beverages</i>
3	<i>Food and Drink around the School</i>	<i>Food Environment and Feeding Practices</i>	<i>Food Environment and Feeding Practices</i>
4	Gardens†	Gardens and Nutrition Education*	Gardens and Nutrition Education*
5	Nutrition Education	<i>Physical Activity and Entertainment Screen Time</i>	<i>Physical Activity and Entertainment Screen Time</i>
6	<i>Physical Education</i>	Parent/Family Involvement	Parent/Family Involvement
7	Physical Activity		Breastfeeding Support†
8	Parent and Family Involvement		

*Core sections are identified above by green, italicized text.*

\*Section 4 of OST and ECE SLAQs includes both gardens and nutrition education. Only nutrition education questions are included in tier calculations. Garden questions are only counted for the Garden Badge.

†Gardens (schools) and Breastfeeding Support (ECE) are counted only for Badges and excluded from tier calculations.

# How badges are assigned



**Nutrition** 70% of possible points across all nutrition questions



**Physical Activity** 70% of possible points across all physical activity questions



**Gardens** 70% of possible points across all garden questions



**Family Engagement** 70% of possible points across all family engagement questions



**Breastfeeding Support** 70% of possible points across all breastfeeding support questions

## Questions by badge: School SLAQs (FFY24 version)

	<i>Section 1</i>	<i>Section 2</i>	<i>Section 3</i>	<i>Section 4</i>	<i>Section 5</i>	<i>Section 6</i>	<i>Section 7</i>	<i>Section 8</i>
<b>Nutrition</b>	1.5, 1.6, 1.7	all	all		all			8.2, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6
<b>PA</b>						all	all	8.3, 8.7
<b>Gardens</b>				all				
<b>Family engagement</b>	1.1*, 1.4*			4.6 <sup>†</sup>				all

\*1.1 and 1.4 are checklist questions; only items relevant to family engagement are counted.  
<sup>†</sup>4.6 is only counted towards family engagement badges for schools with an edible garden.



## Questions by badge: Out-of-School-Time (OST) SLAQ (FFY24 version)

	<i>Section 1</i>	<i>Section 2</i>	<i>Section 3</i>	<i>Section 4</i>	<i>Section 5</i>	<i>Section 6</i>
<b>Nutrition</b>	1.3*	all	all	4.7-4.9		6.3, 6.5, 6.7
<b>PA</b>	1.3*				all	6.4
<b>Gardens</b>	1.3*			4.2-4.6		
<b>Family engagement</b>	1.2*, 1.3*			4.5 <sup>†</sup>		all

\*1.2 and 1.3 are checklist questions; only items relevant to family engagement are counted.

†4.5 is only counted towards family engagement badges for sites with an edible garden.

## Questions by badge: Early Care and Education (ECE) SLAQ (FFY24 version)

	<i>Section</i> <i>1</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>2</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>3</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>4</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>5</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>6</i>	<i>Section</i> <i>7</i>
<b>Nutrition</b>	1.3*, 1.5	all	all	4.7-4.9		6.3, 6.5, 6.7	
<b>PA</b>	1.3*				all	6.4	
<b>Gardens</b>	1.3*			4.2-4.6			
<b>Family engagement</b>	1.2*, 1.3*			4.5 <sup>†</sup>		all	7.2 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Breastfeeding support</b>							all

\*1.2 and 1.3 are checklist questions; only items relevant to family engagement are counted.

†4.5 and 7.2 are counted towards the family engagement badge as relevant, for sites completing section 4 (gardens) and/or 7 (breastfeeding support).

## What will LEAP awardees receive?

- LEAP awards include a digital promotion package each site can use to share their accomplishments:
  - Certificate
  - Web graphics
  - Social media templates
  - Newsletter template

## When are awards given?

- NPI uses SLAQs submitted by the end of each fiscal year to determine awards
- Award notifications are shared each December

This material was developed by Nutrition Policy Institute with support from California Department of Public Health Nutrition and Physical Activity Branch and CalFresh Healthy Living University of California. California's CalFresh Healthy Living, with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – USDA SNAP, produced this material.

This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP. These institutions are equal opportunity providers and employers. For healthy tips, visit [www.CalFreshHealthyLiving.org](http://www.CalFreshHealthyLiving.org).

