



USDA, FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE: PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES



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USDA, FNS MISSION

To reduce hunger and food insecurity in partnership with cooperating organizations by providing children and needy people access to food, a healthful diet, and nutrition education in a manner that supports American agriculture and inspires public confidence.





BE RIGHT, FEED EVERYONE!

Food
Distribution
Programs

Community
Programs

School
Programs

PAN

WIC



Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)



PR Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health, and Family.



Our children & low income
Individuals and families

OPPORTUNITIES

- Improve access to local foods in schools promoting the *Farm to School* initiative.
- Increase the amount of local food purchases in the Child Nutrition Programs.
- Increase the number of Farmer's markets.
- Increase the amount of served meals through the community programs.



WHAT'S AT STAKE? HEALTH

Farm to school health benefits:

- Willingness to try new foods
- Increased consumption of fruits and vegetables (.99 – 1.3 servings/daily)
- Improved knowledge and awareness regarding gardening, agriculture, and healthy eating.



A decorative header featuring a repeating pattern of white line-art icons on a dark background. The icons include a pig, a tree, a fork, and a knife.

FARM TO SCHOOL EQUITY BENEFIT

- » Provides nutrition education, sense of food literacy, and access to good food to all children, regardless of economic status.



WHAT'S AT STAKE? FARMERS

- **Farm to school economic benefits:**
 - » Provide new and/or diversified markets.
 - » Average 5% increase in income from farm to school sales for individual producers.
 - » Advanced contracts increasingly popular.
 - » Positive multiplier effect (up to \$2.16 in local economic activity).



FAMILY MARKETS

- Ensures the NAP participants access to local food that cadirectly from the Farmers through their EBT benefits.
- Currently, there are 54 markets in 51 municipalities.
- 169 certified farmers.

MORE INITIATIVES

Hands On!!!



- **BOOTS for FOODS**
- **Community Gardens**
- **Urban agriculture**







THE
FARM *to* **SCHOOL**
PROGRAM



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PROGRAM



THE
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PROGRAM

USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities



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USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities

Funding from the US Department of Agriculture is available to assist farms, schools, and every link in between in feeding kids healthy local meals; teaching them about food, farming and nutrition; and supporting local agricultural economies. While the programs listed below provide a good starting point for those looking to bolster farm to school efforts, other USDA grant and loan programs support local food systems work as well. Visit www.usda.gov/knowyourfarmer and www.usda.gov/farmtoschool for more information.



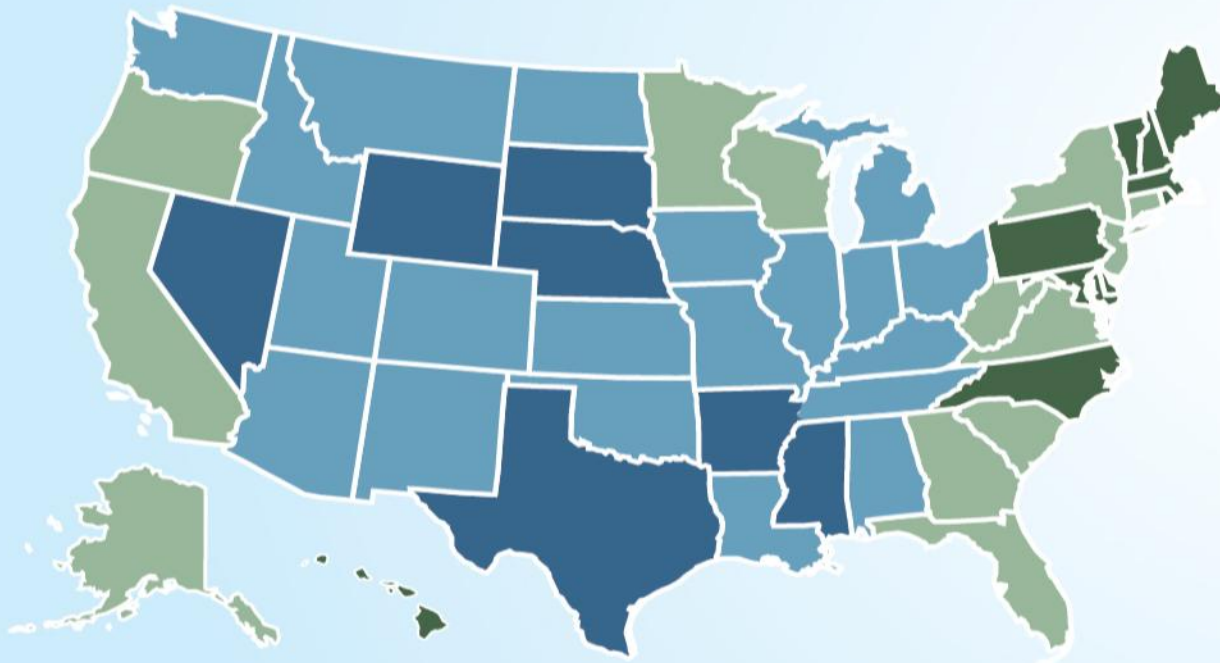
Note: Eligibility guidelines can be quite specific, so be sure to confirm your eligibility on the webpage for the grant or loan program before applying. In addition, non-eligible entities can often partner with eligible entities to benefit from programs they might not otherwise have access to.

Research



THE
FARM *to* **SCHOOL**
PROGRAM

HEALTHY HABITS TAKE ROOT



THE FARM *to* SCHOOL CENSUS

USDA estimates that as of the 2012-2013 school year, **3,812 districts** operating approximately **38,629 schools** with **21,008,254 students** in attendance are **buying local products** and teaching children where their food comes from.

Percent of school districts participating in farm to school activities



HUNGRY FOR MORE?
www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/census/





Technical Assistance



usda.gov/farmentoschool





United States Department of Agriculture

GEOGRAPHIC PREFERENCE

What it is and how to use it



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA FOODS: A RESOURCE FOR BUYING LOCAL



United States Department of Agriculture

USING DOD FRESH TO PURCHASE LOCAL PRODUCE



THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (DoD Fresh) allows schools to use their USDA Foods entitlement dollars to buy fresh produce. The program, operated by DoD's Defense Logistics Agency, began in school year (SY) 1994-1995 as a pilot in eight states. As of 2013, schools in 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam participate; schools received more than \$100 million worth of produce during SY 2012-2013.

What are the advantages of DoD Fresh?

- * **Flexibility:** States can change DoD Fresh allocations on a monthly basis, which allows them to utilize USDA Foods entitlement dollars more effectively. USDA does not impose a cap on the amount of entitlement dollars or the amount of cash reimbursement funds that a state can allocate to DoD purchases.
- * **Consistency:** DoD Fresh vendors update the catalog weekly, and depending on the state, schools can receive deliveries every week, making orders timely, fresh, and responsive to market fluctuations.
- * **High quality:** DoD maintains high quality standards through
- * **Variety:** DoD Fresh vendors offer as many as 50 different types of produce, available in multiple forms (whole, precut, and a variety of pack sizes) and from multiple locales (local and non local items are routinely offered).
- * **Easy ordering and funds tracking:** Schools place orders via the web-based Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Order/Receipt System (FFAVORS). The prices listed in the FFAVORS catalog reflect the prices that schools will be billed for the product. FFAVORS tracks schools' entitlement fund balances and total order costs. DoD manages vendor payment and reconciliation.

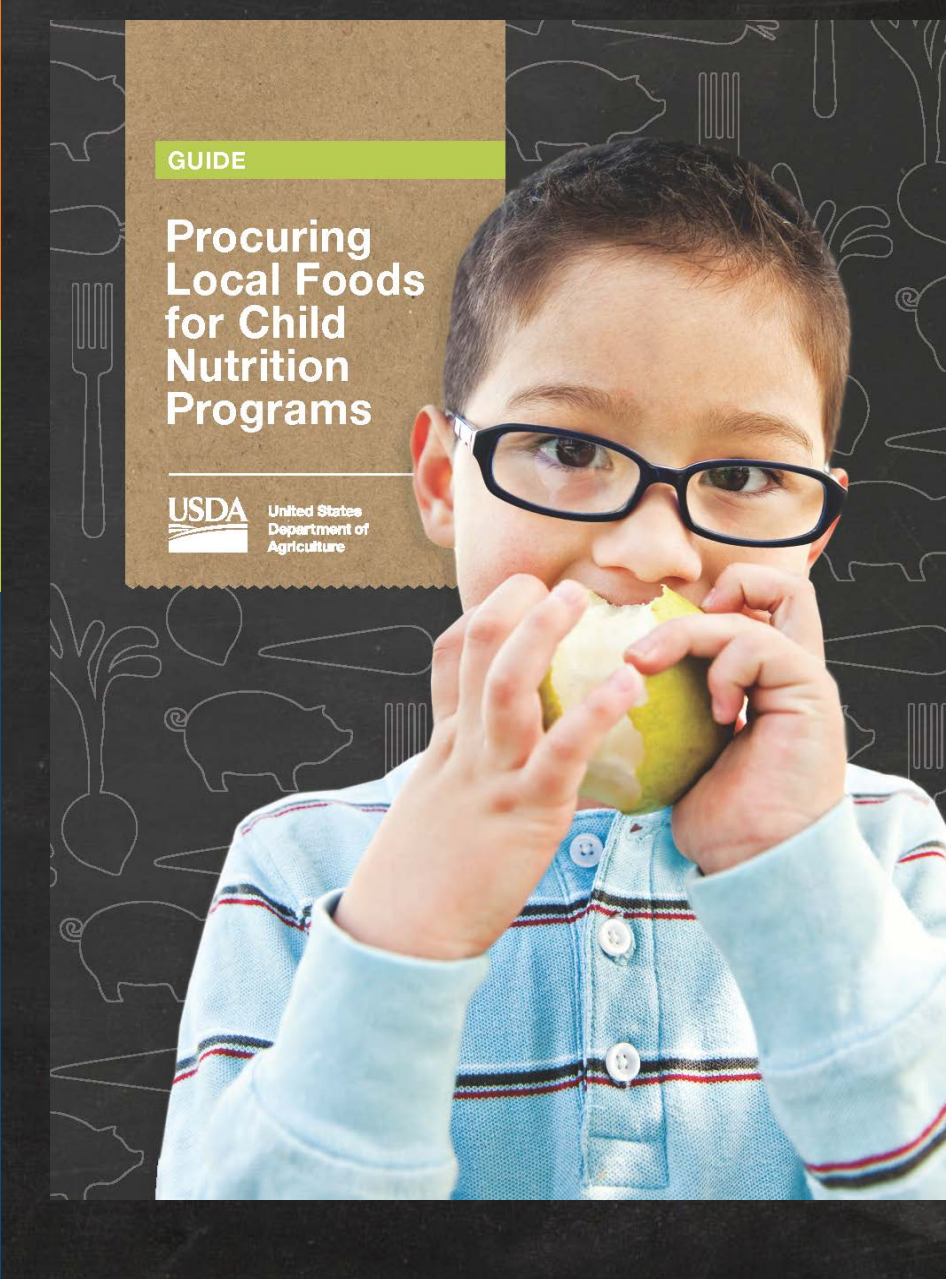
GUIDE

Procuring Local Foods for Child Nutrition Programs



United States Department of Agriculture

GUIDANCE MATERIALS



TOOLKIT

National Overview

State & District

Contact Us

About Farm to School

Grow your program

TOOLKIT



Sign up to receive free email updates



Download 2012 census results

Growing Your Farm to School Program



DOWNLOAD THE TOOLKIT

GET STARTED!

Is there an existing program in your area?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Cras mattis consectetur purus sit



Healthy Habits Take Root

A New FNS Video Series
in Celebration of

NATIONAL
FARM to
SCHOOL
MONTH



Best practices summarized in new five-part video series.



THE USDA FARM TO SCHOOL E-LETTER!

Delivered every other Tuesday, chock full of updates, webinar info, relevant news, and field notes!



Subscribe at usda.gov/farmtoschool



HELPFUL RESOURCES

- **USDA's Local Procurement Guide**
 - » Everything you need to know about local sourcing
 - » <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/procuring-local-foods>
- **USDA Farm to School Website**
 - » Farm to School E-letter, fact sheets, and more!
 - » www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool
- **National Farm to School Network**
 - » Farm to Preschool curricula, program models, seasonal menus & recipes
 - » <http://www.farmtopreschool.org/>
- **Let's Move Child Care (LMCC)**
 - » Healthy eating resources and tools to assist child care and preschool providers
 - » <http://www.healthykidshealthyfuture.org/welcome.html>



**Thank you.
Questions?**



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