**Request for Applications (RFA) – QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

*NSLP Equipment grant fy 2022*

| **Date:** | January 31, 2023 |
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| Number | Question | Answer |
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| 1 | If we were awarded a grant for a school last year would that school still be eligible to apply for the grant? Or is there a waiting period. Our food service management company seemed to think we would have to wait 5 years before applying for that specific school. | Per Section 4.4 of the RFA, preference points are awarded based on grant history:Preference points awarded to schools based on whether they have previously been awarded an NSLP Equipment Grant. However, it does not preclude you from applying or being eligible.

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| NSLP Equipment Grant History | Points |
| School has never been awarded an equipment grant | 10 |
| School has been previously awarded a grant but not within the last five (5) program years | 5 |
| School has been awarded a grant within the last 5 program years (FY15 – FY19)         | 0 |

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| 2 | Section 3.1.2 says to reference the RFA number for any questions. | An RFA number was not listed on the RFA documents. Please reference the RFA name only.  |
| 3 | We would like to apply to purchase a new oven/stove/griddle combo unit. Currently we only have electricity as an option for our equipment. Gas infrastructure exists on campus and there is a line directly next to our kitchen. We would like to make the kitchen gas-ready and use gas for cooking. I am wondering if installation of the gas lines and equipment (and commensurate costs of the contractor to install) can be included in the grant application. I am not sure if this falls under "installation" or if contractor expenses are considered tangible per Section 2.4 Scope of Activities. | Per Section 2.4 Scope of Activities, total costs must include ancillary costs, including installation. The installation of gas lines and equipment would be considered ancillary costs for the purpose of this RFA.  |
| 4 | What is the Sponsor UEI #? | UEI # is the Unique Entity Identifier and is now the primary means of identifying entities registered for federal awards government-wide in SAM. SAM, or The System for Award Management, refers to <https://sam.gov/content/home>. UEI numbers have replaced the DUNS numbers. It is the new number issued by SAM.  |
| 5 | Where can I look up the Free and Reduced Price Meal eligibility data of enrolled students based on the SY 2019-2022 October Claim Data for my school?  | The link to the School Enrollment data is on the application page 1. The link is active in the word document.cid:image003.jpg@01D92B5C.C8C639C0 |
| 6 | How can I find out which schools within my district have never been awarded an equipment grant?  | A list of schools who have been awarded since 2009 is available on the SNP Grant Opportunities web page.<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/childnutrition/SNP/Pages/Grants.aspx>cid:image006.jpg@01D92B5C.C8C639C0 |
| 7 | On the application, in the section “How are Meals for this site/school prepared?” there is not an option that 100% applies to our school. Should we pick the option that is the closest?  | Think of “District-owned equipment” equal to “sponsor owned” if you will be your own sponsor.  |
| 8 | Are applications submitted per school or an application per job/equipment needed? Do we list the jobs/equipment needs based on school needs or job needs?  | SFAs must complete a separate Equipment Application for each equipment unit. All equipment requests for all Sponsor school sites should be listed on the coversheet. The first column of the table is where you will indicate the prioritization order. Sponsors should prioritize the requests in the way you feel would be most beneficial to your organization.  |
| 9 | Are charter schools eligible for the CNP NSLP Grant?  | Charter schools are eligible to apply for this Grant if your school participates in NSLP/SBP.  |
| 10 | We are a small non-profit private school. We participate in NSLP and qualify and operate as Provision 2. We serve our current population, instead of offering. They get their daily grains, meat/meat alternatives, fruit, veggies and milk for each lunch. There are choices for breakfast. For instance, we do serve prepackaged food at our school. Everything is made from scratch. I feel like the scoreboard does not have many options that pertain to our school. Can you clarify if we still qualify?  | The Sponsor should complete the School Lunchroom score card and summary to the best of their ability. Given the way they serve their students does not disallow them from submitting an equipment grant application packet.  |
| 11 | I notice that it asks for the enrollment data for SY 2020-21.  Since we applied and received the grant in 2021 can I use the same enrollment data and Free and Reduced Price %?  It is based on January 2020 data. | That is correct. Sponsors should use the January 2020 data, as it is the only data currently available.  |
| 12 | Can the grant be used to buy upgraded cafeteria tables? Can the grant be used to purchase stainless steel sink, countertop, and a walk-in cooler for the processing of the food that comes from our school farm and garden? | As stated in Section 1.1, this RFA if for the funding of equipment that will: * Serve healthier meals;
* Support scratch cooking;
* Improve food safety;
* Store fresh food;
* Upgrade equipment;
* Support the establishment, maintenance or expansion of the School Breakfast Program.

Section 2.2 defines equipment as the following: * “Equipment” per 2 CFR Part 200.33 means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or 5,000.  For the FY 2022 Equipment Assistance Grant, Congress has specified that the threshold for the purchase of equipment cannot be lower than $1,000.

Per Section 2.4, USDA has expressed preference that grant funds be used only on tangible property. Examples of acceptable equipment include, but not limited to, items used to prepare, cook, display, transport, or dispose of food (e.g. beverage chillers, ovens, or salad bars, but not cafeteria furniture, utensils, containers, or cleaning fluids). |
| 13 | Can the grant be used to purchase stainless steel sink, countertop, and a walk-in cooler for the processing of the food that comes from our school farm and garden? | As stated in Section 1.1, this RFA if for the funding of equipment that will: * Serve healthier meals;
* Support scratch cooking;
* Improve food safety;
* Store fresh food;
* Upgrade equipment;
* Support the establishment, maintenance or expansion of the School Breakfast Program.
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| 14 | We would like to request two identical pieces of equipment. Should they be listed on separate applications or consolidated into one application?  | Each equipment request should be listed on a separate application.  |
| 15 | Can we apply if we order prepared food from Fresh n Local and we do not yet prepare all meals from scratch?  | Per section 1.3 Eligibility, the criteria for participation in the NSLP Equipment Grant is as follows: To be eligible for a Grant under this RFA, Applicants must be a School Food Authority (“SFA”) with a previously approved State Agency-Sponsor Agreement on file to operate the National School Lunch Program (“NSLP”) and that would otherwise be operating NSLP in SY 2022-2023.  |
| 16 | Can we purchase a mouse-safe food storage outdoor closest to store a salad bar and food prep equipment under this grant? Our kitchen is limited in size and therefore it would be stored outside.  | Per Section 1.1 Purpose, equipment with a value of greater than $1,000 needed to serve healthier meals, support scratch cooking, improve food safety, store fresh food, upgrade equipment, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the SBP qualify under this grant.  |
| 17 | Can we ask for multiple items under $1000 to be combined to reach the $1000 minimum or does each item have to cost over $1000?  | Per Section 2.4, Scope of Activities, a successful Applicant may use grant funds to pay ancillary costs associated with the purchase of new, such as taxes or installation costs, and those ancillary costs may be included with the price of equipment in order to reach the Application minimum amount of $1,001. Each piece plus ancillary costs must be no less than $1,001. |