

ODE Farm to CNP Newsletter



March 1-31, 2022

FARM TO CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS: INSIDE THE ISSUE



Oregon Harvest for Schools

Oregon Harvest for Schools posters are available free of charge to Oregon schools. The order form (which details the exact inventory of which posters are currently available) can be found on the **Oregon Harvest for Schools webpage**.

Grant Updates

Please take note that the Farm to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Reimbursement Grant is now listed under "The Office of the Director" in EGMS. This is where you will find your 2021-2023 biennium awards. The 2021-2023 claim form can be found on the **Farm to CNP Reimbursement Grant webpage**. It is the first item under the "Resources for Claims" section.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) Update

Please continue to submit claims to

FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov according to the SY 2021-2022 FFVP timeline. January 2021 claims are due Friday, April 1, 2022. If you use up your initial FFVP award funds please contact us at **FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov** to inquire about additional funds.



Fresh Produce Programs Summary

Read about the differences between the USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program, the Farm to CNP Reimbursement Grant, the USDA Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and the USDA Foods Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot, all of which are administered by ODE.

Farm to Summer Celebration Week Challenge: July 11-15, 2022

We encourage Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors to take the pledge and participate in the Farm to Summer Celebration Week!

Farm to Summer Celebration Week Challenge: July 11-15, 2022

Take the Farm to Summer Celebration Week Pledge!

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors are encouraged to pledge to do the following during Farm to Summer Week - July 11- 15, 2022:

- Serve a minimum of one local food
- Provide a minimum of one food enrichment activity (in-person or virtually depending on local conditions)
- Share Farm to Summer Celebration Week successes at least once through social media, websites, or another outlet

Awards (a pear trophy!) will go to the top three sponsors that meet all three requirements of the challenge.

No effort is too small! You can source one item or all foods locally.

How do I take the Pledge? Contact us at **farmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov** and let us know you plan to participate. We will ask you to complete a brief survey before and after the Farm to Summer Week Celebration.

Below are a few resources to help you start planning:

- Oregon Harvest for Schools Directory
- Oregon Harvest for Schools Educational Materials
- OSU's Food Hero
- Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council
- USDA Farm to School Census
- USDA Capacity Builder- Use this to locate Farmer's Markets and Turnip the Beet Awardees
- USDA Farm to Summer Page

Need more ideas for purchasing local foods this summer? Please contact the Farm to CNP team at farmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov







Updates on the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) Program

FFVP SY 2021-2022 Updates

- Please continue to submit claims to FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov according to the SY 2021-2022 <u>FFVP timeline</u>. January 2021 claims are due Friday, April 1, 2022.
- Please complete the <u>mandatory annual FFVP training</u> before submitting your first FFVP claim.
- If you use up your initial FFVP award funds please contact us at **FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov** to inquire about additional funds.



2021-2023 Biennium Awards: Noncompetitive Reimbursement Grant

- **Vendor Update**: Rainier Fruit Co. based in Selah, WA no longer carries Oregon grown produce. Therefore, their products cannot be reimbursed with Farm to CNP award funds.
- The Farm to CNP Reimbursement Grant is now listed under "The Office of the Director" in EGMS. This is where you will find your 2021-2023 biennium awards.
- The 2021-2023 claim form can be found on the <u>Farm to CNP</u> <u>Reimbursement Grant webpage</u>. It is the first item under the "Resources for Claims" section.
- The mandatory Training Webinar is now available on the
 <u>Reimbursement Grant webpage</u>. This is a recorded webinar.
 Please view as your schedule allows. After viewing is complete, each grantee must fill out a <u>Reimbursement Grant Attestation Form</u>.
- Before Farm to CNP claims can be approved, returning sponsors must complete a <u>Final Report</u> from last biennium and new sponsors must complete a <u>Baseline Report</u>.

Any questions can be sent to us at FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov.

We will send out a listserv announcement about the **Education Grant**, **Technical Assistance Grant** and **Competitive Reimbursement Grant** as soon as we have updated timelines.

Oregon Harvest for Schools Posters

A small run of new Oregon Harvest for Schools posters was recently completed.

We now have additional copies of the following items available in English and Spanish in the 16"x24" poster size. Due to the small run we can only send 1 copy of the items below in this size to each requesting School District.

- Beets
- Beef
- Blueberries
- Broccoli
- Carrots
- Cranberries
- Kale
- Peppers
- Peas
- Salad Greens
- Tomatoes
- Potatoes
- Radishes
- Spinach
- Dry Beans
- Oats
- Seafood
- Wheat
- Yogurt

We also have copies of the following items available in different poster sizes (an exact inventory is listed on the poster order form). Multiple copies of these posters can be ordered based on remaining inventory.

- Asparagus
- Broccoli
- Cherries
- Corn
- Salad Greens
- Winter Squash
- Oregon's Seasonal Harvest Poster
- Oregon Grown Fresh Produce/Seasonality Poster

These posters are available free of charge to Oregon schools. The order form can be found on the <u>Oregon</u> <u>Harvest for Schools webpage</u>.



Fresh Produce Programs Summary

The Oregon Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs (ODE CNP) administers several programs that provide reimbursement for fresh produce. ODE wanted to take an opportunity to clarify and highlight the different funding streams and programs for ODE CNP Sponsors that are involved with more than one program. Please note that items claimed for reimbursement under one program cannot be claimed for reimbursement again under a different program.

There are four separate programs outlined here. The first two are administered by the ODE Farm to CNP Team:

- USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)
- Farm to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant

The following two programs are administered by the ODE USDA Foods Team:

- USDA Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- USDA Foods Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot

USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

Summary: The FFVP is a Federal grant program that is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) at the federal level. At the State level, the FFVP is administered by the agency that administers the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) – in Oregon, that is the ODE. FFVP awards are federal dollars that can be used for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables that are served outside of regular NSLP meal times.

Program Purpose and Goals: The purpose of the FFVP is making fresh fruits and vegetables available to elementary school children. The goals of the FFVP are as follows: (1) expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables school children experience, (2) increasing their consumption of fruits and vegetables, and (3) having a positive impact on their present and future health.

Eligibility: Only elementary schools participating in NSLP can participate in the FFVP grant program. In Oregon, an elementary school is defined as a school which offers any combination of the grades K-8.

What types of food can be purchased? FFVP award funds can be used to buy fresh fruits and vegetables (with minimal exceptions) from anywhere in the United States. Purchases do not have to be local fruits and vegetables.

How do I get involved? This is a one-year grant program. The current program year runs from October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022. Applications for the coming program year usually open in the summer. Please visit the **FFVP website** for more information.

Administration & Support: The FFVP is administered by the ODE Farm to CNP team. Questions? Email us at **farmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov**



Farm to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant

Summary: The Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant is a State grant program administered by ODE. Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant awards are State funds to be used for the purchase of Oregon grown and/or processed products served in NSLP, CACFP or SFSP meals.

Program Purpose and Goals: The purpose of the Farm to CNP Reimbursement Grant is to encourage and sustain successful efforts to purchase or promote foods that are produced in the State of Oregon; more that minimally processed in the State of Oregon or both produced and processed in the State of Oregon. Grantees are encouraged to seek out products that they may not have had the resources to purchase before, and to cultivate new relationships with Oregon producers and processors.

Eligibility: The following types of entities are eligible to participate in the Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant: a school or school district participating in the National School Lunch Program; a provider of center-based programs for children in the Child and Adult Care Food Program; or an entity that provides meals through the Summer Food Service Program.

What types of food can be purchased? Oregon grown and/or processed fruits, vegetables and other foods.

How do I get involved? This is a two-year grant. The current biennium runs from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023. All NSLP, CACFP and SFSP sponsors are automatically opted in, and awards are based on CNP meal counts from previous years. Please visit the **Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant website** for more information.

Administration & Support: The Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant is administered by the ODE Farm to CNP team. Questions? Email us at **farmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov**



<u>USDA Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program</u>

Summary: The USDA DoD Fresh Program began in 1996 and allows agencies the option to allocate any portion of their USDA Foods entitlement funds towards fresh fruits and vegetables. Agencies place produce orders in the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (FFAVORS).

The DoD Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), in cooperation with USDA, contracts with a Prime Vendor to deliver the produce in Oregon. All procurement activities are completed by DLA. Only domestic produce (US grown) may be purchased from the items listed in the catalog. Local products offered from Oregon and neighboring states are also noted in the FFAVORS system.

Program Purpose and Goals: The purpose of the program is supply fresh fruit and vegetables directly to schools along with existing deliveries to military installations or other sites in the United States from these Prime Vendors. The increased volume adds to better pricing and product availability for all participants.

Eligibility: Any Sponsor who participates in the USDA Foods Entitlement Program.

What types of food can be purchased? Domestic fruits and vegetables, does not have to be local.

How do I get involved? During the yearly order period in February and March, allocate some of your funds for the following school year in the Google form linked in the order memo. Please visit the **USDA DoD Fresh website** for more information.

Administration & Support: The USDA DoD Fresh Program is administered by the ODE USDA Foods Team. Questions? Email us at **ode.fooddistribution@ode.oregon.gov**

USDA Foods Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot

Summary: As part of the 2014 Farm Bill, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) are conducting a pilot project in up to eight States to provide more purchasing flexibility and options for unprocessed fruits and vegetables, including minimally processed products such as sliced apples, baby carrots, and shredded lettuce as well as frozen and dried fruit. The Pilot project allows participating states to) use multiple suppliers and products established and qualified by the Secretary and (2) designate a geographic preference, if desired.

Program Purpose and Goals: The goal of the Pilot Project is to develop additional opportunities for schools to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables with entitlement funding, while using pre-existing commercial distribution channels and school relationships with growers, produce wholesalers, and distributors. The pilot supports the use of locally-grown foods in school meal programs using entitlement funds. Proper procurement of the products must be completed by the participating agencies. The pilot requires 100% domestic product.

Eligibility: Any program that participates in USDA Foods entitlement. As it is a pilot program, we look to maintain diversity in size and region for participants. New participants must be approved by USDA. See website below for details.

What types of food can be purchased? Unprocessed fruits and vegetables. Must be from the United States, but does not have to be local. Approved vendors are approved for specific products and only these products may be purchased under the pilot. Please review the **approved vendor list** to review approved vendors and their products.

How do I get involved? During the yearly order period in February and March, allocate some of your funds for the following school year in the Google form linked in the order memo. Please visit the **USDA Foods Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot website** for more information.

Administration & Support: The USDA Foods Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot is administered by the ODE USDA Foods team. Questions? Email us at **ode.fooddistribution@ode.oregon.gov**





Civil Rights and Complaints Process

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the <u>USDA Program Discrimination</u> <u>Complaint Form</u>, (AD-3027) found online at: <u>How to File a Complaint</u>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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