Using Eggs in Oregon School Cafeterias

One of the most frequent questions we receive is “can we raise chickens at our school garden?” (absolutely!) and then, “can we use the eggs the hens lay?” This is a bit trickier.

A school garden would probably fall in one of these two categories:

1. utilizing their eggs for the cafeteria -OR-
2. utilizing their eggs via selling to individuals or farmer’s markets

Producer is required to have an **egg handler license** for the following:

* Selling or distributing eggs to consumers, retailers, cafes, bakeries, hospitals, ***SCHOOLS***, boarding houses or institutions. This can be done, but is NOT for the faint of heart! There are a lot of steps and expenses.

Producer is not required to have an egg handler license when the following applies:

* Producer is selling and delivering their own eggs direct to an individual consumer (including farmers' market), *but labeling is required*.
* Producer sells only ungraded eggs to a dealer.

All of this can be found on the following website, as well as license applications:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/FoodSafety/FSLicensing/Pages/Eggs.aspx>