



A Guide for Farms and Farmers Markets



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| About the Farm Direct Nutrition Program | 3        |
|---|----------|
| About Oregon Farm Direct shoppers       | 4        |
| Farmer qualifications and authorization | <u>5</u> |
| Farmer market participation             | 6        |
| Eligible fruit and vegetables           | <u>7</u> |
| Farmer and market signage               | 8-9      |
| How farmers get paid                    | 10-11    |
| Processing vouchers for payment         | 12-13    |
| Redeeming vouchers in payment portal    | 14       |
| Scan barcode with a smart device        | 15-17    |
| Scan barcode with a computer webcam     |          |
| Manually enter voucher numbers          | 20-21    |
| Guidance for handling paid vouchers     |          |
| Frequently asked shopper questions      |          |
| Non-discrimination statement            |          |
| Contact the Farm Direct team            | 27       |

# **About the Farm Direct Nutrition Program**

The Oregon Farm Direct Nutrition Program is a state-administered USDA nutrition program that brings nearly 2 million dollars to Oregon farmers each year. Farm Direct vouchers are issued to families enrolled in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program and eligible low-income seniors to spend with authorized farmers selling directly to consumers.

The \$4 vouchers, called Farm Direct Dollars, are specifically for locally grown fresh, unprocessed fruits, vegetables and cut edible herbs and are valid from June 1 through November 30 each year.

The program connects new customers with local farmers and farmers markets and helps increase access to nutritious, locally grown food.



A list of participating farmers markets and farm stands can be found at <u>myoregonfarm.org</u>.

# **About Oregon Farm Direct Shoppers**

#### How do WIC families receive their vouchers?

Participants receive \$28 worth of Farm Direct vouchers at their local WIC clinic during a class, an appointment or sometimes at a farmers market. WIC is a public health nutrition program that provides wholesome food, nutrition education, breastfeeding guidance and community support for income-eligible pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to 5 years old. Participating women and children over 4 months of age are eligible to receive Farm Direct youchers.

#### How do Seniors receive their vouchers?

Each April eligible seniors receive a letter that will invite them to participate in the program. Interested seniors will receive \$32 in Farm Direct vouchers by mail. If there is not enough funding to serve all interested seniors, participants are selected randomly from the responses received.

Seniors must be at least 62 years old and receiving Medicaid or SNAP on April 1 to be eligible. Additionally, seniors cannot be living in a facility where meals are provided and must have a monthly income below set income guidelines.

Participants may have someone shop on their behalf.

# Farmer qualifications and authorization

#### To qualify, farmers must:

- Own, lease, rent, or sharecrop land to grow, cultivate, or harvest crops on that land in Oregon or a bordering county; and,
- Sell their own produce at a farmers market or farm stand.

#### **Before accepting Farm Direct vouchers, farmers must:**

- Complete and submit an application at myoregonfarm.org;
- Participate in a brief video call orientation training, if new to the program;
- Sign a three-year agreement; and,
- Receive an authorization letter and program materials packet in the mail from the state Farm Direct team.

Each year 10% of farmers will be monitored on-site by State staff.

Farmers authorized to accept Farm Direct vouchers must comply with regulations outlined in <u>Oregon Administrative</u> <u>Rules 333-052-0020 through 333-052-0130</u>.



Farm Direct Nutrition Program Guide

# Farmers market participation

#### To qualify, a farmers market must:

- Meet on a consistent basis at defined locations over the course of the season; and,
- Have at least three market vendors over the course of the season who grow, cultivate or harvest fresh fruits, vegetables, or cut culinary herbs in Oregon or a bordering county in another state.

# To be listed in the online shopper directory, farmers markets must:

- Complete and submit an application at myoregonfarm.org;
- Participate in a brief video call orientation training, if newly participating market or new market manager;
- Sign a one-year agreement; and,
- Receive a program materials packet in the mail from the state Farm Direct team.

# Farmers markets cannot accept Farm Direct vouchers.

Please ensure at least one Farm Direct-authorized farmer is present during all market hours of operation.

Markets must comply with program requirements contained in <u>7 CFR 248</u>, <u>7 CFR 249</u>, <u>Oregon</u>

<u>Administrative Rules 333-052-0030 through 333-052-0130</u> as they pertain to markets and procedures.

# Eligible fruit and vegetables

Farm Direct vouchers may be accepted for locally grown:

- Fresh fruit
- Fresh vegetables
- Cut culinary herbs

'Locally Grown' means grown in Oregon or the bordering counties of Washington, California, Nevada and Idaho

Program eligible foods may not be processed or prepared beyond their natural state except for the usual harvesting and cleaning processes.

#### Products that are not allowed include:

- Imported produce such as bananas, pineapples, and oranges;
- Processed produce such as jam, dried or frozen fruit, salsa, sauerkraut or cider;
- Produce plants such as tomato or basil starts;
- Non-produce foods such as eggs, nuts, meats, honey, baked goods, or cheese;
- Non-food agricultural items such as potted plants, seeds, or cut flowers;
- Non-food items such as crafts, jewelry or shopping bags.

# Farmer and market signage

Authorized farmers must post a "Welcome Here" sign in a visible location whenever selling eligible produce June-November and may request additional signs from the program as needed.



Markets are encouraged to display the provided poster at the information booth to assist Farm Direct shoppers and answer common questions.



# How farmers get paid

Only authorized farmers may accept Farm Direct vouchers. Farmers markets and unauthorized farmers are not permitted to accept the vouchers.



#### **Farmers must:**

- 1. Accept Farm Direct vouchers for eligible produce from June 1 through November 30.
- 2. Provide shoppers with the full amount of product for the value of each voucher. No change can be given.
- 3. Enter all vouchers in the WIC Direct Vendor Portal operated by CDP (see page 14) by December 15. Farmers cannot be paid for vouchers entered after December 15.

#### **Please Note:**

- Vouchers do not need to be entered in the payment portal at the time of sale to complete the transaction.
- Vouchers cannot be accepted from or traded with other farmers or vendors.
- Vouchers from previous years are not valid and cannot be paid.



Farm Direct Nutrition Program Guide

# Processing vouchers for payment

#### **Using the Vendor Payment Portal**

All vouchers accepted by farmers will be redeemed electronically through the "WIC Direct Vendor Portal" (vendor payment portal) operated by Custom Data Processing, Inc (CDP) starting with the 2023 season. CDP is the payment processor for Oregon Farm Direct.

Oregon Farm Direct authorized farms must register for an account and complete enrollment before vouchers can be scanned or manually entered.

# There are three tasks to complete the payment portal enrollment:

- Review and electronically sign a processing agreement with CDP Inc.
- Submit a Federal Tax ID number/Form W-9
- Provide the bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit payments



Find step-by-step instructions on how to register, complete enrollment, and use the vendor payment portal at: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/">https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/</a>
<a href="https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/">Documents/payment-portal-instr.pdf</a>

| Enter your local login creder       | ntials.          |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Logging in to: WIC Direct Vendor Po | rtal             |
| Username *                          |                  |
|                                     |                  |
| Password *                          |                  |
| Remember my login                   |                  |
| Login Cancel                        | Forgot password? |
| Don't have an account? Register her | e!               |

#### Weekly payment cutoff:

Farm Direct vouchers entered by Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Time Zone) will be paid by direct deposit on Thursday. All vouchers for the season must be entered by December 15 of the program year.

# Redeeming vouchers in the payment portal

You can enter a voucher for payment in one of two ways:

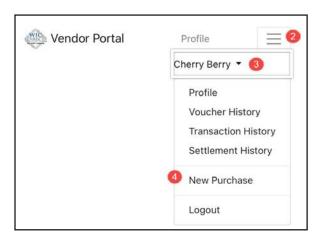
• Scan the voucher barcode using a smart device camera (recommended) or a computer webcam.

#### OR

 Manually enter the voucher number by typing in the ten digits.

#### Steps to redeem a Farm Direct voucher:

- Login to the Vendor payment portal at <a href="https://vendors.cdpehs.com">https://vendors.cdpehs.com</a> using a web enabled smartphone, tablet, or computer
- 2. Tap or click the three bars in the upper right screen of the Vendor payment portal homepage.
- 3. Tap your name. A dropdown menu will appear.
- 4. Tap or click **New Purchase**



#### Scan barcode with smart device

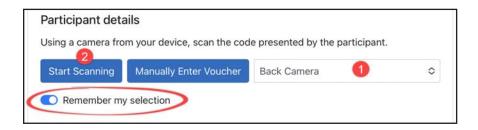
# Option A: Scan the voucher barcode using a smart device camera \*Quickest Option\*



#### Click Request Camera Access.

A pop up will display asking to use the camera from your device to scan the voucher barcode. Depending on your device, the information displayed on this page may be different.

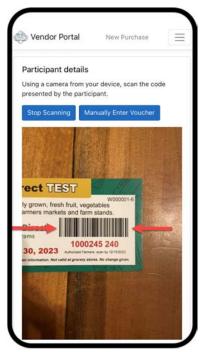
1. Select the **back camera** for the device. The program automatically selects the "front camera," which faces you. Click the dropdown to the right of the blue buttons to select the "back camera" on your tablet or cell phone to scan the image.



# Scan barcode with smart device, cont'd

- If the camera frame is already in view, click or tap **Stop Scanning** to reach the camera select options.
  - Toggle Remember my selection if you will use this device again.
- 2. Click or tap **Start Scanning**. A camera frame image will open within the site.
- 3. Center the entire barcode on the voucher in the camera frame.

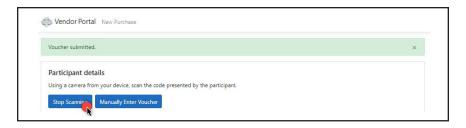
Move your device closer or farther away as needed until the barcode has been successfully scanned.
Scanning works best in a well-lit space.



#### Scan barcode with smart device, cont'd

4. The screen will display a green "Voucher Submitted" banner at the top of the screen when you have successfully captured the bar code.

The camera will reset to scan another barcode.



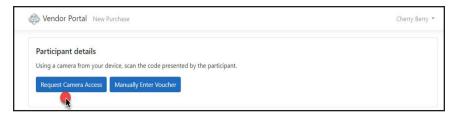
The screen will display a red banner with the error reason if the barcode is not valid. For example, "Voucher has already been redeemed"

- 5. Repeat voucher redemption steps until all vouchers are entered.
- 6. Click or tap **Stop Scanning** or exit the page when you are done.
- 7. A record of the vouchers scanned will be on the **Voucher History** page.

# Scan barcode with computer webcam

# Option B: Scan the voucher barcode using a computer

1. Go to the New Purchase screen



#### 2. Click Request Camera Access.

A popup will display asking to use the camera from your device to scan the voucher barcode.

#### 3. Click Allow.

The information displayed depends on the type of device used.

4. Use the drop-down menu to select the appropriate camera. There may only be one option.



5. Click or tap **Start Scanning**.

A camera frame image will open within the site.

# Scan barcode with computer webcam, cont'd

- 6. Center the full barcode on the front in the camera frame. Move the voucher closer or farther away as needed.
- 7. The screen will display a green "Voucher Submitted" banner at the top of the screen when the barcode is scanned.
  - The screen will display a red banner with the error reason if the barcode is captured but invalid. For example, "Voucher has already been redeemed"



- 8. Repeat voucher redemption steps until all vouchers are entered. When you are finished click or tap **Stop Scanning** or exit the page.
- 9. Find a record of the vouchers scanned on the **Voucher History** page.

#### Manually enter voucher numbers

# Option C: Manually enter the voucher serial numbers on any device.

1. Start at the "New Purchase" screen.



- 2. Click or tap **Manually Enter Voucher** on the New Purchase page. This will open a new Voucher details screen.
- 3. Locate the red 7-digit **Serial number** and the black 3-digit number, known as the "**Serial hash**", on the front of the youcher.



#### Manually enter voucher numbers, cont'd

4. Enter the Serial and Serial hash numbers into the fields in the form.



- 5. Click Continue.
- 6. Repeat the steps to manually enter each voucher until complete.
- 7. A record of the vouchers scanned can be found on the **Voucher History** page.



# Guidance for handling paid vouchers

Your farm can enter vouchers into the payment portal **one time only**. Please destroy redeemed and paid vouchers as soon as your payment is entered and confirmed.



- Mark each voucher after entering it into the vendor payment portal. This prevents it from being used again.
   For example, stamp or write "VOID" on the voucher or draw a line through the barcode.
- Keep vouchers entered in the vendor payment portal until your account shows payment. All vouchers entered by Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. (Pacific) will be paid by direct deposit the next day (Thursday).
- Destroy processed and paid vouchers like you would a cancelled check. For example, shredding. Do not recycle whole vouchers or put in the trash without shredding.

# Frequently asked shopper questions

Shoppers may refer to program vouchers as Farm Direct Dollars, WIC vouchers, senior vouchers, farmers market coupons, the new checks, or some combination of all of those!

#### 1. How do I use my Farm Direct vouchers?

Vouchers are spent directly with authorized farmers to purchase fresh, locally grown produce. They are spent like cash, except no change is given.

#### 2. What can I buy with my Farm Direct vouchers?

Vouchers are good for fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables and cut herbs only. This does include mushrooms and garlic. See page 7 for more details.

#### 3. Can I get change if I don't spend all \$4?

Change cannot be given for Farm Direct vouchers. Separate vouchers may be used with different farmers, but one voucher cannot be split. If the desired purchase is less than \$4, shoppers can work with the farmer to bring the product total to \$4. Currencies can also be combined for a purchase. For example, if the total for eligible produce is \$5, you can use one \$4 Farm Direct voucher and \$1 cash as payment.

# Frequently asked shopper questions

# 4. Do I need to show my eWIC card or Oregon Trail EBT card, or sign the vouchers to redeem them?

No. No identification is needed to spend the vouchers. Participants may have someone shop on their behalf.

#### 5. Which farmers take these vouchers?

Participating farmers markets and farm stands can be found at <a href="www.myoregonfarm.org">www.myoregonfarm.org</a>. At a farmers market, look for the "Welcome Here" sign at produce farmers' booths. The sign may not be posted, so asking a vendor is encouraged. See sign on page 8.

#### 6. Do Farm Direct vouchers expire?

Yes, annually. Refer the customer to the November 30 expiration date printed on the front of the voucher.

#### 7. What happens if I don't spend them all?

Vouchers that are not spent in one visit can be brought back and redeemed on another day before the expiration. Shoppers are not permitted to give away unused vouchers.

# Frequently asked shopper questions

#### 8. How do I sign up to get Farm Direct vouchers?

The vouchers are for eligible WIC participants and income-eligible seniors. If the shopper thinks they may be eligible, refer them to their WIC office or 211 (toll-free) to learn more.

# 9. What if I have a complaint or a problem with a program shopper?

Program participants must be treated the same as other shoppers. If a participant behaves disruptively, follow your customer service policy and, if possible, report it to the State WIC Office. Farmers and farmers markets may call with any questions, comments, updates or complaints regarding program participation.



In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</a>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

#### Contact the Farm Direct team

# Oregon Health Authority State WIC Office – Farm Direct Team:

Oregon.FDNP@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Phone: 877-807-0889, option 2 (toll-free)

PO Box 14450

Portland, OR 97293-0450

www.myoregonfarm.org

#### **Farmers - Contact CDP Customer Support for:**

- Problems with the WIC Direct Vendor Portal website
- To update bank account information (after initial enrollment)
- To update tax ID information (after initial enrollment)
- To notify CDP of a transaction that you believe to be incorrectly handled by the System. (Must be done within six (6) business days from the original transaction date.)

#### CDP Customer Support: 5 am - 7 pm PST

Phone: 866-237-4814

Email: <u>CustomerSupport@cdpehs.com</u>

# Thank You, Farmers!









