



ODE Farm to School Newsletter



April 1-30, 2021

FARM TO SCHOOL: INSIDE THE ISSUE



Oregon Harvest for Schools

The newest videos are here! In this issue we feature Asparagus in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and Peas in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)!

Grant Updates

ODE Farm to School has an opportunity to award one grant for \$60,000 for someone to evaluate our Farm to School Grant program. The RFP can be found on the [Farm to School Grants webpage](#) (very bottom on the left).

FFVP Update

If a school participating in the 2020-2021 FFVP will use up the awarded FFVP funds before the end of the program year, additional funds may be requested by emailing FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us.

Farm to School Spotlight

OSU Columbia's Exploring Oregon's First Foods Farm to School Education grant was featured in an article in the Columbia County Spotlight published on April 9, 2021 titled, [Digging deep and putting down roots](#), about the garden that was constructed over spring break at Lewis and Clark Elementary in St. Helens. Also, the first round of Competitive Procurement grants have been awarded! Read the recipient list and some highlights of the proposed spending plans below. Applications for rounds 3 and 4 are available on the [Farm to School Grants webpage](#).



Oregon School Garden count for the month of April: 778!

Take a look at the [Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Map](#) to explore and learn more!



Our newest videos are here featuring Asparagus and Peas!

The month of April brings new additions to the Oregon Harvest for Schools (OH4S) video series; Asparagus in English and Spanish and Peas in English and Spanish!



An English language version of the [Asparagus Video](#).



A Spanish language version of the [Asparagus Video](#).



An English language version of the [Peas Video](#).



A Spanish language version of the [Peas Video](#).

The Oregon Department of Education's Child Nutrition Program and OSU Extension's Food Hero campaign have teamed up to launch this series which will include a total of 50 videos when complete. The series aims to educate students on healthy, Oregon food. For a comprehensive list of the videos we have available to date visit the [Oregon Harvest for Schools website](#) and click on the Videos tab under "Other Items."

To find local vendors selling asparagus, peas or any of our other fruits and vegetables, please visit the [Oregon Harvest for Schools Portal](#) website.

Please visit the [USDA Food Buyers Guide website](#) for more information on USDA crediting for asparagus and peas in Child Nutrition Program meals.

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

Please continue to submit claims by the following dates.

- February claims must be submitted by no later than Thursday, April 29, 2021.
- March claims must be submitted by no later than Tuesday, June 1, 2021.
- April claims must be submitted by no later than Tuesday, June 29, 2021.

You can view the full calendar of claims deadlines on the [FFVP website](#).

REMINDER: Please submit claims to FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us.

Do you need more FFVP money for program year 2020-2021?

If your school has spent down the FFVP funds awarded for this program year and could use more, please send us an email at FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us with your request for additional funds. Requests will be considered as we receive them.

General questions about the FFVP program can also be sent to FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us.





Farm to School Grant Updates

Competitive Procurement Grant

Applications for the Competitive Procurement Grant are now available on the [Farm to School Grant webpage](#).

What is the Competitive Procurement Grant?

The Competitive Procurement Grant is part of the Farm to School Program and is intended to provide eligible Farm to School grantees with additional funding above their original Farm to School award amount. These funds are derived from a reallocation process in which the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) redistributes unspent Farm to School award dollars from grantees that have determined they are unable to exhaust their original awards.

To be eligible for these funds, applicants must be either a School District, a provider of center-based programs for children in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, or be an entity that provides meals through the Summer Food Service Program. In addition, applicants must have been awarded a Farm to School Noncompetitive Procurement Grant and 1) have spent all of the Noncompetitive funds, **or** 2) have a zero balance (due to the legislative reduction process).

The intent of the Farm to School Noncompetitive Procurement Grant has always been to support grantee purchasing of Oregon grown and processed food that might otherwise be cost prohibitive. To ensure grant funds are spent within the intent of the grant, the Farm to School team has designed the grant application process as follows:

1) Complete and submit the Competitive Procurement Grant RFA. Every applicant is guaranteed a base award amount (depending on availability of funds), that can be spent on any allowable Oregon grown or processed foods, as with the Noncompetitive Procurement grant.

2) Applicants can be awarded MORE funding by filling out the RFA and achieving preference points. Preference points are given for purchasing plans that include categories such as: purchasing from minority or women-owned companies, serving culturally relevant foods, purchasing a variety of Oregon products or purchasing new Oregon products and developing new commercial relationships. The higher the applicant's preference point score, the higher the additional funding (see RFA for preference point matrix).

The ODE Farm to School team offered a training session on March 17th. A link to the webinar will be posted on the [Farm to School Grants website](#).

Timeline:

Round 3

Questions/Requests for Clarification Due - April 23, 2021, 10:00AM

Applications Due - April 30, 2021, 2:00PM

Round 4

Questions/Requests for Clarification Due - May 24, 2021, 10:00AM

Applications Due - May 31, 2021, 2:00PM

Please send any questions about the RFA to Noemi Rios, Procurement and Contract Specialist, at Noemi.Rios@ode.state.or.us.

Farm to School Spotlight:

Competitive Procurement Grant Round 1

We are pleased to announce that the first round of competitive procurement grants have been awarded. Awards went to 22 applicants totaling close to \$350,000. Grantees listed 40 Oregon small farms and businesses that they will be working with over the remainder of the biennium. Awards were granted to:

Bend LaPine SD | Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley | Cascade SD | Clatskanie SD | De La Salle North Catholic | Eugene SD | Imbler SD | Klamath Family Head Start | Lebanon Community SD | Lowell SD | McMinnville SD | Neverland Nursery | North Powder SD | Parkrose SD | Port Orford-Langlois SD | Portland SD | Redmond SD | Samaritan Hospital | Siuslaw SD | Visitation Catholic School | Willamina SD | Yamhill-Carlton SD

Some highlights include:

Bend LaPine SD plans to purchase Yakisoba noodles from Umi noodles, an all women-owned business. The school district also plans to purchase half carcasses of pork from Home Farm Foods, an Animal Welfare Approved business, that culinary students will butcher and smoke with Chef guidance.

Neverland Nursery School in Springfield, OR plans to participate in a local meat CSA through UBA Ranch LLC and to purchase vegetables from Winter Green Farm in Noti, OR.

Port Orford-Langlois SD plans to purchase local seafood from Port Orford Sustainable Seafood, as well as local beef from Oregon Grass Fed Beef and local produce from Valley Flora, a woman-owned small farm in Langlois.

Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital plans to purchase fresh produce at the Newport Farmers Market from Pablo Munoz Farms, Neal Farm, and Gathering Together Farm as well as from Corvus Landing Farm.

Willamina SD is working with Mama Tee's, a woman-owned local farm, that provides farm-grown vegetables, berries and eggs.



School Garden Updates

The Columbia County Spotlight published an article on April 9, 2021 titled, [*Digging deep and putting down roots*](#), about the garden that was constructed over spring break at Lewis and Clark Elementary in St. Helens. This was a project funded through OSU Columbia's Exploring Oregon's First Foods Farm to School Education grant.

Farm to School Evaluation Grant

ODE Farm to School has an opportunity to award one grant for \$60,000 for someone to evaluate our Farm to School Grant program. The RFP can be found on the Farm to School Grants webpage (very bottom on the left).

- **Applications Due - April 23, 2021, 2:00PM**
- **Issuance of Notice of Award (approx.) - May 7, 2021**

Grant Submission: An electronic version of the complete Application must be submitted to Peter Park, Procurement and Contract Specialist, at Peter.Park@ode.state.or.us. The email subject line must contain RFP #ODE-2521-21 and the Applicant's full business name.

Questions About Farm to School?

Oregon's Farm to School and School Garden [*Resource People document*](#) has been updated. Here you will find contact information for people who can answer specific questions about different Farm to School topics.

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#), 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:

1. 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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