



July 1-31, 2022

FARM TO CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS (CNP): INSIDE THE ISSUE

Farm to CNP Education Grant is Open!

We are pleased to announce that the [Farm to CNP Education Grant](#) is now open! There will again be two tracks: A mini grant with a simplified application for the range of \$2,000-\$10,000 for smaller or starter projects, and a full grant for the range of \$10,001-\$100,000 with the standard, in-depth application. We have \$3 million dollars allocated for this education grant. **Applications are due Friday, August 12, 2022 by 5PM.**



Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) Update

Please continue to submit claims to FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov according to the SY 2021-2022 FFVP timeline. **May 2022 claims are due Saturday, July 30, 2022.** If you use up your initial FFVP award funds please contact us at FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov to inquire about additional funds. Applications for SY2022-2023 are now open on the [FFVP webpage](#). Applications are due by **September 1, 2022.**

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 CNP Staff Update

We have a new staff member joining the Farm to CNP team! Alicia Loebel will be joining the Farm to CNP team August 1, 2022 as an Office Specialist when team member Emily Griffith departs to spend a year abroad with her family. Read the bios of current team members Rick Sherman and Amy Williams along with Alicia's on the following page.

Other Opportunities and Farm to School Updates

In this issue you can also read about ODE's Virtual Culinary Training; Green Our Planet's Hydroponics STEM Program Grant and GardenConnect STEM Program Grant and Umpqua Valley Farm to School's DC Produce Project.

ODE VIRTUAL CULINARY TRAINING: REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

[Registration is now open for the ODE Virtual Culinary Training: Oregon Cooks for Kids - Winner, Winner, USDA Chicken Dinner Culinary Training.](#)

Please join us for a virtual culinary experience with Chef Jessica. School and child nutrition professionals across Oregon are invited to an hour of inspiration on **Thursday, August 11th at 2:00pm.**

Watch or cook along with Jessica as she prepares easy, tasty and fun recipes that meet Child Nutrition Program guidelines. Participants will receive recipes and lots of creative ideas for cooking with USDA chicken.

After [registering](#), you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. If you have a favorite chicken recipe to share or any questions, please contact Crista Hawkins at chawkins@odncouncil.org.

HYDROPONICS & SCHOOL GARDEN GRANT INFO

For the first time ever, Green Our Planet is providing grants to schools to fund 80% of Green Our Planet's Hydroponics Program and 71% of our outdoor GardenConnect STEM Program!

The Green Our Planet Hydroponics Grant will cover \$8,000 of the \$10,000 cost of the Hydroponics STEM Program, with schools covering the \$2,000 balance. The Green Our Planet GardenConnect Grant will cover \$2000 of the \$3500 cost of our GardenConnect Program. The priority deadline of June 24th has already passed, but we will keep the grant open on a rolling basis for your schools.

As you may know, Green Our Planet already runs the largest school garden and school hydroponics programs in the nation. Our STEM garden programs are powerful hands-on learning tools that help teachers engage their students in STEM, conservation, nutrition, entrepreneurship and more, all while providing their communities with a source of fresh healthy produce. 91% of teachers using our program highly recommend it to their colleagues. Our school garden and school hydroponics programs are the only STEMworks accredited school garden programs in the United States.

If you or any teachers or principals you know might be interested in having one or both of these programs at their schools beginning in the fall of 2022, please fill out the applications below!

[Hydroponics STEM Program Grant](#)

[GardenConnect STEM Program Grant](#)

Schools are welcome and encouraged to apply for both programs and will need to fill out both applications if they wish to do so.

FARM TO CNP STAFF



Rick Sherman was hired by the Oregon Department of Education in 2012 as the Farm to School/School Garden Coordinator after working for 32 years as a Nutrition Services Director. The last 20 of those years have been spent as a Director of Nutrition Services in Eugene, Albany and Dallas (Oregon). Rick graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in Education. Rick is a Master Gardener, loves home brewing, & riding dirt bikes. He spends his spare time in his backyard garden and raising chickens.

Amy Williams is the Farm to CNP Administrative Specialist and has been with ODE for three and a half years. She also helps to administer the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and is on the Oregon Healthy Schools advisory committee. Amy is passionate about Public Health and, this fall, she will start working towards a master's degree in Health Promotion at the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health.

Alicia Loebel developed an interest in sustainable and socially just food systems at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA where she got a bachelor's degree in psychology and environmental policy. After college, she spent a year in Southwest Colorado as an AmeriCorps school garden coordinator. This love of working with students in the garden led her to a FoodCorps position in Oregon with Rogue Valley Farm to School. After two years serving in Southern Oregon she is returning to graduate school to learn about Sustainable Food Systems at CU Boulder. Outside of food and gardening, her interests lie in being outdoors and being active (especially playing ultimate frisbee).



CNP Grant Updates

Education Grant Open Now!

We are pleased to announce that the Oregon Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs is finally able to release the Oregon Department of Education Farm to Child Nutrition Programs [Competitive Education Grant!](#)

- We have \$3 million dollars allocated for this education grant.
- There will again be two tracks: A mini grant with a simplified application for the range of \$2,000-\$10,000 for smaller or starter projects and a full grant for the range of \$10,001-\$100,000 with the standard, in-depth application.
- This is a COMPETITIVE grant. There's no guarantee that you will receive an award, even if you've received one in the past. This grant has historically been so competitive that many applications were scored very high and were outstanding applications, but still weren't awarded due to the amount or level of competition.
- Normally we get this grant out in the beginning of the biennium. That was not possible this time due to unforeseen circumstances. This means the potential awardee will have to spend the funds for the upcoming school year, from when they are awarded the grant to June 30, 2023. We cannot approve any extensions.
- Questions about the grant are due by August 5, 2022.
- **Applications are due by 5PM, Friday, August 12, 2022.**

Questions? Before you contact ODE, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, located in the Resources section on the [Education Grant webpage](#). If you still have questions after that, please contact Philip Hofmann at philip.hofmann@ode.oregon.gov.



Competitive Reimbursement Grant Open Now!

Round 3 of the Competitive Reimbursement Grant is now open. Applicants must have been awarded a Farm to CNP Non-Competitive Reimbursement Grant and have a \$0 balance of Non-Competitive funds.

The timeline for Round three of the Competitive Reimbursement Grant is as follows:

- Questions/Requests for Clarification are due **September 1, 2022 by 10AM.**
- Applications are due **September 8, 2022 by 2PM.**

There will be a total of six rounds of the Competitive Reimbursement Grant through the end of the biennium.

You can view the Request for Grant Applications (RFA) and the full timeline on the [Competitive Reimbursement Grant webpage](#).

FFVP Updates

- Please continue to submit claims to FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov according to the SY 2021-2022 [FFVP timeline](#). May 2022 claims are due **Saturday, July 30, 2022.**
- Please complete the [mandatory annual FFVP training](#) 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.

SY 2022-2023 FFVP Applications Now Open!

Applications for FFVP SY 2022-2023 can be found on the [FFVP webpage](#). These funds will cover any FFVP costs your participating schools incur between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.

If you currently have a school that participated in SY 2021-2022 and it is still over 50% free and reduced, no action is necessary for those particular schools as they will automatically be re-enrolled.

Some helpful points to remember if you are interested in applying for the FFVP grant:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers the FFVP at the Federal level.
- The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) administers the FFVP at the State level.
- FFVP sub-grants are awarded to schools, not school districts.
- Only elementary schools (defined as K-8) are eligible.
- Awards are granted to those schools representing the highest percentage of students certified for free & reduced price benefits.
- Only schools participating in the NSLP are eligible.

We will be accepting applications for SY 2022-2023 until **September 1, 2022.**

Applications will be reviewed and turned around quickly after this date. An application does not guarantee an award, as we will prioritize schools with the highest need based on F&R%. If you would like a list of free and reduced percentages for schools in your district that are not currently enrolled in the FFVP please let me know.

Applications can be sent to:
FarmtoCNP@ode.oregon.gov



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.



FARM TO SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: UMPQUA VALLEY FARM TO SCHOOL (UVF₂S)

From the Umpqua Valley Farm to School Newsletter: "UVF₂S is so thrilled to announce that we are gearing up for our second year of the DC Produce Project, a summer produce box program that is generously funded by a grant from The Whipple Foundation Fund through Oregon Community Foundation.

We have expanded this year and are partnering with Feeding Umpqua to deliver produce to rural communities that may be considered food deserts. These communities include: Yoncalla, Elkton, Scottsburg and Drain.

Ninety produce boxes each week for 4 weeks will come from Lehne Farm and Valadez Organic Produce with special extras from other local farms. They'll be delivered and distributed through summer camp busing and at local stores and healthcare clinics. Bethany Durbin, a Douglas ESD nurse, helped create this project and will once again partner on it. We are excited to be doubling our reach this year!"

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 [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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