

STARTING THE DAY WITH USDA FOODS

Tips for incorporating USDA Foods into your School Breakfast Program



Research shows that children who start their day off with a healthy breakfast learn better. For that reason, schools across the District are working to ensure students have access to a well-balanced morning meal through the School Breakfast Program, a federally assisted meal program operating in public and non-profit private schools and residential child care institutions. Incorporating USDA Foods into a School Breakfast Program can assist food service staff in using their money wisely and support students in accessing a well-balanced breakfast that will give them what they need to start off their school day. This resource is intended for schools interested in using USDA Foods to support their School Breakfast Program.

USDA FOODS MAKES YOUR DOLLAR GO FARTHER.

USDA Foods, whether purchased for direct delivery, as bulk ingredients for further processing, or as a part of the Department of Defense Fruit and Vegetable Program (DoD Fresh), can be used within school breakfast meal service. Doing so can free up funding that would be used to buy the same products commercially, which means more money is available for other facets of the school meal program.

USDA FOODS TASTE GREAT.

Kids are sure to love recipes that feature USDA Foods! Serve produce from DoD Fresh to meet the one cup fruit requirement, incorporate direct delivery foods like Oat Circle cereal and mixed berries, or bring bulk ingredients for further processing to the center of the plate by serving a [Breakfast Burrito with Salsa](#), [Baked French Toast Strips](#), or [pancakes](#).

USDA FOODS MEANS AMERICAN GROWN.

All USDA Foods are high quality 100 percent American-grown foods, which means you can rest assured you are supporting American agriculture throughout the school day.

LEARN MORE ABOUT USDA FOODS.

For questions about the Office of the State Superintendent of Education's (OSSE's) [Food Distribution Program](#) can be addressed to Beth Hanna at (202) 899-6077 or by email at Elizabeth.Hanna@dc.gov.

