

Grant Criteria

Grant applications are disseminated in the spring of year school year. Schools must meet the following criteria in order to apply:

- ⇒ Participate in the National School Lunch Program. Schools must comply with federal and state guidelines for operating the program.
- ⇒ Be an elementary school. The definition of an elementary school is any school that serves lunch to students in grades preschool through fifth grade.
- ⇒ Have 50% or more of its students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Priority is given to schools with the highest percentage of low-income students to the maximum extent practicable.

*Submit an application for each site that is interested in participating.



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**For more information, please visit the OSSE
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program webpage
at:**

<http://osse.dc.gov/service/fresh-fruit-and-vegetable-program-ffvp>



**FRESH
FRUIT &
VEGETABLE
PROGRAM**



What is the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program?

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) administers the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) at the federal level. At the state level, the FFVP is administered by the State Agency (OSSE), housed under the Division of Health and Wellness. Selected schools in the District of Columbia receive reimbursement for fresh fruits and vegetables made available, free of cost, to students during the school day. The FFVP is a competitive enrollment process, which should be applied for annually.

The goals of the FFVP are to:

- ⇒ Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices.
- ⇒ Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- ⇒ Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption.
- ⇒ Make a difference in children's diets to impact their present and future health.



Program Requirements

- ⇒ Funds are allocated from July 1—June 30 and are based on school enrollment. The per student allocation is between \$50-75.
- ⇒ Schools receive monthly reimbursement for the cost of purchasing, preparing, and serving fresh fruits and vegetables.
- ⇒ Schools must submit a spending plan, detailing how funds will be spent throughout the year.
- ⇒ Schools incorporate nutrition education.
- ⇒ Schools make fresh fruits and vegetables available to students throughout the school day at least two days per week.
- ⇒ Fruits and vegetables are provided separately from the lunch or breakfast meal, on the school campus, during the school day.

Implementing the Program

The FFVP allows for flexibility in service style, types of produce items served, portion sizes, service days, service times, and preparation.

Service Styles:

- ⇒ Classrooms
- ⇒ Cafeterias
- ⇒ Playgrounds
- ⇒ Hallways
- ⇒ Kiosks
- ⇒ Gymnasiums

Allowable Foods

- ⇒ Fresh Fruits
- ⇒ Fresh Vegetables
- ⇒ Low-fat or fat-free dips for vegetables only.

Preparation

- ⇒ Fresh fruits and vegetables can be serviced whole, sliced, chopped, peeled, halved, etc.

