



HSA Requirements – Farm to School

Reimbursement for Local Foods Served in Schools

Under section 102 of the HSA, OSSE shall provide an additional 5 cents per day reimbursement to public schools, public charter schools, and participating private schools when at least one component of a reimbursable breakfast or lunch meal is comprised entirely of locally-grown and unprocessed foods; provided that the schools report the name and address of the farms where the locally grown foods were grown to OSSE.

Local Food Sourcing

Under section 301 of the HSA, public schools and public charter schools shall serve locally-grown, locally-processed, and unprocessed produce from growers engaged in sustainable agricultural practices whenever possible. Preference shall be given to fresh, unprocessed agricultural products grown and processed in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

Education Programs, Technical Assistance, and Annual Celebrations

Under section 302 of the HSA, OSSE, in conjunction with other District government agencies, community organizations, food service providers, public schools, and public charter schools shall develop programs to promote the benefits of purchasing and eating locally-grown and unprocessed foods that are from growers engaged in sustainable agricultural practices. In addition, OSSE is required to conduct at least one program per year (such as an annual flavor of the week or a harvest of the month program) in collaboration with other District agencies and non-profit organizations.

Mandatory Reporting

Under section 303 of the HSA, on or before June 30 of each year, OSSE shall submit to the Mayor, the Council and the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission a comprehensive report of the District's farm-to-school-initiatives and recommendations for improvement.