

# Local Foods, Lucas County

## Connecting Farms, Health, and Community

## Farm to School: Grants and Funding

### USDA Grants

The purpose of the USDA Farm to School Grant Program is to assist eligible entities in implementing Farm to School programs that improve access to local foods in schools. On an annual basis, USDA awards up to \$5 million in competitive grants.

#### Grant Timeline:

- *Fall:* Farm to School Grant Program RFA released.
- *December:* Farm to School Grant Program applications are due in [grants.gov](http://grants.gov)
- *May/June of the following year:* Announce awards

#### Grant Types:

##### Planning Grant

*What:* organize efforts of schools just starting Farm to School, creation of Farm to School Action Plan

*Who:* PreK-12 School Food Authorities, non-profit private schools, charter schools, Indian tribal schools, others who participate in NSLP/BP, CACFP, SFSP

*How Much:* \$20-45k (25% matching funds required-cash or in kind)

*Time period:* activities must be completed within 18 months

##### Training Grant

*What:* support trainings to strengthen supply chains, provide technical assistance for procurement, food safety, culinary education, integration of agriculture based curriculum

*Who:* state and local agencies, tribal organizations, agriculture producers (or groups), non-profit entities

*How much:* \$15-50k (25% matching funds required-cash or in kind)

*How many are available:* 1 national training grant, 7 regional or state training grants

##### Implementation Grant

*What:* help scale up or further develop existing Farm to School activities

*Who:* PreK-12 School Food Authorities, non-profit private schools, charter schools, Indian tribal schools, others who participate in NSLP/BP, CACFP, SFSP

*How much:* \$65-100k (25% matching funds required-cash or in kind)

*Time period:* 1-2 years (includes stand up activities, execution, close out activities)

Previous Planning grantees may apply, may be combined with Support Service application from partnering agency

##### Support Service Grant

*What:* further development of existing Farm to School initiatives, broad reaching support services including support for procurement of local foods for school lunch/breakfast.

*Who:* state and local agencies, tribal organizations, agriculture producers (or groups), non-profit entities working with schools including AmeriCorps, City Year

*Partnering Schools:* K-12 public, charter or private, but must participate in NSLP/BP, CACFP, SFSP

*How much:* \$65-100k (25% matching funds required-cash or in kind)

*Time period:* 1-2 years

## How can USDA grant money be used?

*Suggested activities:* action plan development, evaluation, menu audits, curriculum, professional development, improving infrastructure, promotional efforts

*Allowable grant expenses:* personnel, contractors, equipment\* (including coolers, freezers, ovens, salad bars) and supplies (including kitchen tools, seeds, livestock), meeting expenses, travel and trainings, temporary structures like moveable greenhouses

\*Equipment is not an allowable expense for Planning and Training Grants

*Non-allowable grant expenses:* land, buildings, construction of permanent structures, delivery costs

\*No more than 10% of grant funds may be used for food. Acceptable food purchases include taste tests or promotional use.

### How do we apply?

Grant applications must be submitted online via grants.gov. Mailed applications will not be accepted. Applications are reviewed on a national level in order to ensure geographical diversity and equitable treatment of urban, rural, and tribal communities.

Technical Support for grants.gov:  
phone: 800-518-4726

email: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)



## Other USDA Funding

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Grant- Distributed by Ohio Department of Education for new purchases of food serving equipment. [www.education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Food-and-Nutrition/Resources-and-Tools-for-Food-and-Nutrition](http://www.education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Food-and-Nutrition/Resources-and-Tools-for-Food-and-Nutrition)

Agricultural Marketing Service Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)- grant funds with a 25% match to support local food businesses.

[www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/lfp](http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/lfp)

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Community Food Projects (CFP) Competitive Grants Program- grant funds with 100% match for public food program service providers, tribal organizations, or private nonprofit entities

[www.nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program)

## Additional Grant and Funding Resources

Voices for Healthy Kids- [www.voicesforhealthykids.org/grant-opportunities/](http://www.voicesforhealthykids.org/grant-opportunities/)

Awesome Foundation- Food Chapter [www.awesomefood.net/](http://www.awesomefood.net/)

Simply Organic 1% Fund- [www.simplyorganic.com/community/about/giving-back/grant-application](http://www.simplyorganic.com/community/about/giving-back/grant-application)

Chef Ann Foundation: Salad Bars to Schools- [www.saladbars2schools.org/](http://www.saladbars2schools.org/)

Skoop & Chef Ann Foundation: Project Produce- [www.chefannfoundation.org/programs-and-grants/project-produce/](http://www.chefannfoundation.org/programs-and-grants/project-produce/)

Fruit Tree Planting Foundation- [www.ftpf.org/fruittree101.htm](http://www.ftpf.org/fruittree101.htm)

Fiskars Project Orange Thumb- [www2.fiskars.com/Community/Project-Orange-Thumb](http://www2.fiskars.com/Community/Project-Orange-Thumb)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Raising Places :Building Child Centered Communities- [www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2017/raising-places-building-child-centered-communities.html](http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2017/raising-places-building-child-centered-communities.html)



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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: [go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity](http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity)

Farm to School: Grants and Funding

Contact your local OSU Extension office for more information.

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One Government Center Suite 550  
Toledo, OH 43604 Phone: 419-213-4254  
[lucas.osu.edu](http://lucas.osu.edu) [extension.osu.edu](http://extension.osu.edu)