



Grant Application: Frequently Asked Questions

What types of foods can I purchase?

Fresh or minimally processed fruits, vegetables, and legumes. Minimal processing allows for washing, cutting, dehydrating, packaging, and freezing but not cooking or canning of any kind.

Where can I purchase from?

Fruits, vegetables, and legumes must be grown in Michigan. Any minimal processing, such as washing, cutting and freezing, must also be completed in Michigan. You can purchase from any grower, distributor, food hub, or store that you wish as long as you maintain the invoice information complete with the grower's location on it. If you would like to link to your local MSU Extension Educator or any further farm to school resources can be found here: [Michigan Farm to School Resource Sheet](#)

Can the match come from other school food programs?

If awarded, you must spend double that amount awarded per the match requirement. Funds for purchasing should come from your CACFP, SFSP, and/or NSLP programs. Note: If you are obtaining Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes with the support of other programs – including the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, USDA Foods - Department of Defense Produce, the Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program, or Hoophouses for Health – those transactions (with invoices that show the name of the farm where it was grown and the county the farm is in) can also be used as part of meeting your match requirement.

What if I participated in USC last year?

As long as you participated in SFSP(USC), NSLP, and/or CACFP in the previous year, you are eligible to participate. All sponsors including RCCI's and CACFP participants are eligible to participate.

Is this a competitive grant?

Yes, be prepared to answer questions related to your current farm to school partnership, marketing, and procurement projects/goals. Education and marketing can be anything

related to meal promotion, agriculture education, and social media. Partnerships can include teachers, parents, vendors, and local growers.

What meals can I serve 10 cent produce in?

Any USDA child nutrition program including breakfast, lunch, snack, or supper. These foods would be served or distributed as part of the meal

Should I submit invoices even after I get fully reimbursed?

We suggest submitting all local purchase data. Not only so legislative representatives can see the importance of the program, but also in case MDE has the opportunity to reallocate grant money at the end of the grant cycle.

If awarded, what do I need to submit?

Your SFA will need to submit surveys and invoice data quarterly. Your SFA will also need to submit meal count information for reimbursement within MDE systems. Processes for these activities are forthcoming and will be included in training.

Where can I apply?

Applications are available through an on-line link from MDE. All eligible applicants should have received this link from MDE via email on October 12th.

Please contact Liana Bennett or Jaime Malnar of MDE for assistance, including help logging in if you are having difficulty. Their emails are BennettL4@michigan.gov and MalnarJl@michigan.gov. Deadline to apply is October 26th.

Where can I find more information about this program?

Please visit www.tencentsameal.org for more information about this program. A detailed guide to the application available on the Tools for Schools and Early Childhood tab can be found [here](#).

What is the time period that is covered for this grant?

The 10 Cents a Meal program can be used for any purchases of Michigan-grown produce and dry beans from August 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. We encourage you to start purchasing now if you are interested in the program! Just make sure to save procurement documentation / invoices that includes the name and location of the farm that grew the product, even if you purchase from a distributor or food hub rather than directly from a farm.