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.

Who Is eligible?
All school and non-school sponsors in Michigan that participate as a sponsor in a federal child nutrition program. To clarify: if you receive reimbursement directly from the State of Michigan for your child nutrition program, you are eligible. If you are reimbursed through another sponsor, you are not directly eligible. Please encourage your sponsor to apply.

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 Cents 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?**
Sponsors will need to submit surveys and invoice data. You 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?**
The 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan’s Kids & Farms grant application is open for a second round of grants for the current 2022 funding year (September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022). Grants will be awarded by the Michigan Department of Education until the funds are expended, so the sooner applicants apply the better.

Applications are available through an online link from MDE. To access the application, click on the following link.

Please contact Wendy Crowley from MDE for assistance, including help logging in if you are having difficulty. She can be reached at CrowleyW@michigan.gov

**Where can I find more information about this program?**
Please visit [http://www.tencentsmichigan.org/](http://www.tencentsmichigan.org/) for more information about this program. A detailed guide to the application is available on the 10 Cents Grant Application page and 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 September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. 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.