



10 CENTS A MEAL FOR MICHIGAN'S KIDS & FARMS

10 Cents a Meal is a state program that's received bipartisan support since 2016. It provides matching funds to grant-winning schools and early childhood education centers (ECE) to purchase Michigan-grown produce for kids' meals. In 2020-2021, it grew from pilot regions to expansion statewide, with \$2 million serving about 140 grantees. Advocates hope for continued expansion.



ECONOMY

- The program doubles the state's investment because schools and ECE centers match the grant with existing food dollars, usually federal. They direct the dollars to purchase Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and dry beans, keeping money in Michigan's economy and ensuring a secure food supply.



AGRICULTURE

- In the last pilot year, schools purchased 93 different fruits, vegetables, and dry beans grown by 143 farms in 38 Michigan counties.



HEALTH

- Students tried 67 new fruits, vegetables, and dry beans that schools hadn't served to them before. Schools are where our children get up to two or even three meals a day- even if school is out for a crisis like COVID.



EDUCATION

- Related activities enhance classroom education through hands-on learning about food, health, agriculture, and subjects like science and math.
- 10 Cents a Meal provides kids access to nutritious, high-quality, local food so they are ready to learn and grow.