



**MASSACHUSETTS
FARM TO SCHOOL**

Northeast Food For Schools

An opportunity for your school?

MASS. FARM TO SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Mass. Farm to School strengthens local farms and fisheries and promotes healthy communities by increasing local food purchasing and education at schools.

- Professional learning opportunities
- Networking
- Policy/Advocacy
- Communications



Northeast Food for Schools Overview

Funding Amount: \$3.5 million in new, one-time USDA funding for MA public schools

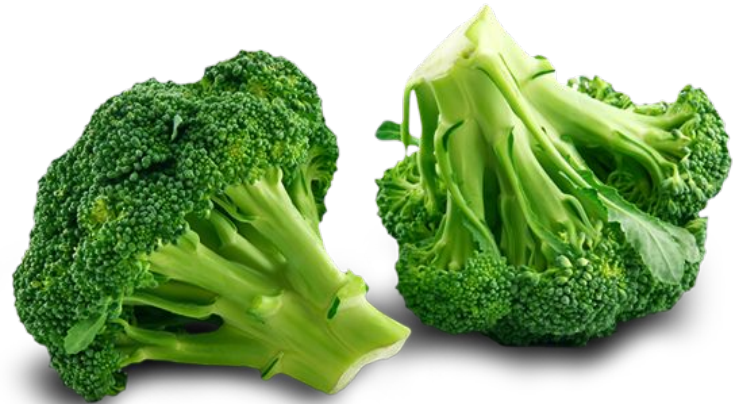
Eligible School Districts: All MA districts can opt-in to participate

Eligible Products: Unprocessed and minimally processed foods grown/raised within 400 miles

Award Size: Up to \$100,000 per school district depending on district size, interest, and available funds

Program Timeline:

Funds distributed to schools this spring, available through June 2024



Eligible Products - A Few Examples

Can I Use My Award For....

Massachusetts-grown carrot coins? Yes!

New Hampshire made yogurt? Yes!

Fish fillets caught on a Massachusetts-owned boat? Yes!

Ground beef from Vermont? Yes!

Bread baked in a MA bakery? No

Selecting Local Food Vendors - Key Considerations

- What products are you looking to source?
- Direct purchases vs. food hub or distributor purchases
- Ability of vendor to provide product traceability
- Delivery schedules & logistics



Technical Support Available to Schools

- Guidance on strategically allocating your funds
- Direct connections to interested farms and food hubs
- Support developing solicitations including 3-quotes or RFP
- Other help as requested!

SAMPLE Produce

REQUEST FOR QUOTES

The **ADD SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME** (hereinafter “District”) invites quotes from vendors that can provide the following items listed in Appendix B: RFQ Quote Form. We are requesting firm fixed pricing from **September 1, 2022**, through **December 30, 2022**.

District information:

PROVIDE GENERAL DISTRICT INFORMATION

New England Foods For Schools: We are participating in a grant that provides funding for unprocessed or minimally processed products (e.g., whole, cut, pureed, etc.) and/or forms (e.g., fresh, frozen, canned, dried, etc.) with a preference that items are raised, produced, aggregated, stored, processed, and distributed within 400 miles.

****All quotes/submissions are due to **ADD NAME** via email at **ADD EMAIL** by **ADD DATE** at 5pm**

Please contact **ADD NAME** at **ADD EMAIL** with any questions by **3:00 pm on August 12, 2022**.

PROGRAM PRINCIPLES

This solicitation is in keeping with the District’s school food program principles, which are as follows:

- Access to nutritious, safe, healthy, and delicious food is paramount for the success of students.
- The work of area farmers is valued, and it is important to connect our school food program to local farms and agriculture.
- Providing health and nutrition educational opportunities for students is part of the overall educational experience.
- Supporting local and regional producers benefits everyone.

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS and ESTIMATED QUANTITIES

Next Steps

- Complete the NFS Interest Form
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/news/news.aspx?id=27017>
- Contact any existing local food vendors to alert them to the opportunity
- Reach out to MFTS for support
- Develop a plan for using the funds



Q&A

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