

OSPI CNS Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Reference Sheet

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) provides an opportunity for all children in participating schools to receive a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the school year. USDA reimburses FFVP schools for the costs associated with making fresh fruits and vegetables available to students.

The goals of the FFVP are to expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience, increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption and make a difference in children's diets to impact their present and future health.

Schools must apply annually to be considered for FFVP participation.

Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Be an elementary school.
- ✓ Participate in the NSLP.
- ✓ Represent the highest percentage of students certified for free and reduced-price benefits.

Operation Requirements

1. The FFVP is funded on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30 of each year.
 - Continuing programs should begin within the first two weeks of school and are encouraged to begin the first day of school.
 - New programs should begin by October 1.
 - Programs should operate up to the last two weeks of school.
2. Schools must offer the FFVP to **all students** at least twice weekly.
3. All expenditures are claimed for the month in which they occur.

Example: produce expenses purchased during the last week of September but used the first week of October - claim as a September expense.



Definition of an Elementary School

- ✓ Child Nutrition Services interprets elementary grades as grades 1–6. To accommodate schools that do not fall into this traditional configuration:
 - Pre K–K and Pre K–1 may apply.
 - K–8 schools may apply.
 - Any grade variation inclusive of grades K–6.
 - Example: grade 4–6 schools.
- ✓ The following grade configurations **do not** meet the elementary school definition:
 - Preschool only schools.
 - Middle schools with any 7–8 grades
 - Example: grade 5-8 schools.
- ✓ Child Nutrition services may allow K–12 schools to apply for FFVP; however funding will not be awarded for students in grades 9-12.

Resources

- [Section 19 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act](#)
- [Section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 \(20 U.S.C. 7801\)](#)
- [USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Handbook](#)

Acronym Reference

- CNS - Child Nutrition Services
- FFVP - Food Distribution Program
- NSLP – National School Lunch Program
- OSPI - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- USDA - United States Department of Agriculture