"This grant allows us to expose our students to fresh fruits and vegetables they may never try at home."

— Angie T.
Tulare City School District

"Administrators, teachers, and students all love and believe in the program! The FFVP definitely increases the students' consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables."

—Marilou O.
Panama-Buena Vista Union School District

Resources

CDE FFVP Resources

- FFVP Web page: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/caffvp.asp

USDA FFVP Resources

- USDA FFVP Web page: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/ffvp/
- *USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: A Handbook for Schools* http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/handbook.pdf

Nutrition Education Resources

- Team Nutrition: http://www.fns.usda.gov/TN/
- FFVP Resource Center: https://bit.ly/2qS4NdS
- Farm to School Initiative: http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/farm-school
- Harvest of the Month: http://www.harvestofthemonth.cdph.ca.gov/web-links.asp

California Department of Education
School Nutrition Programs

California Department of Education
Nutrition Services Division

1430 N Street, Suite 4503
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916-445-0850
E-mail: FFVP@cde.ca.gov

For more information, please visit the California Department of Education's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Web page at **http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/caffvp.asp**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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FRESH Fruit and Vegetable PROGRAM

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is a federally funded grant for elementary schools. Awarded schools provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks free of charge to all students and teach nutrition education during the school day.

Goals of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

The grant program allows schools to offer students a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables during the school year. The goals are as follows:

- Create a healthy school environment by providing healthier food choices.
- Increase the amount of fruits and vegetables that children eat.
- Help children learn how healthy eating habits improve their present and future health.

Who Can Apply

Each spring, the California Department of Education (CDE) releases an application for the FFVP grant for the following school year. Schools must meet the following criteria to apply for a grant:

- Be an elementary school as defined by the CDE.
- Participate in the National School Lunch Program.
- Have 50 percent or more of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

How the Program Works

- The CDE awards schools with the highest percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. The grant award is between $50 and $75 per student for the grant year.
- The grant period begins July 1 and ends June 30 of each school year. Each school should begin the program as close to the start of the school year as possible.
- Schools submit monthly claims for reimbursement of the cost of the produce, labor, supplies, equipment, and other administrative costs (limited to 10 percent of the grant award).
- Schools must serve the FFVP fruits and vegetables on the school campus, during the school day, and separately from lunch or breakfast meals.
- Schools widely announce the FFVP grant within the school. The FFVP snack must be offered to all enrolled students.

Program Guidelines

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program allows schools flexibility to choose the fruit and vegetable items, location of service, and frequency of the snack and nutrition education offered. Schools must operate within the following guidelines:

Allowable Items

- Fresh fruits and vegetables (not canned, frozen, or dried) must be offered.
- Low-fat yogurt-based dips for vegetables or other low-fat or nonfat dips are permitted; other condiments may be allowed with state approval.

Methods of Service

- In the classroom
- On the playground
- In the cafeteria (not during mealtime)
- In kiosks
- In school hallways

Additional Requirements

- The CDE requires schools to offer the FFVP snack a minimum of three days per week, during a normal five-day week, and encourages schools to serve more frequently if possible.
- Schools must provide nutrition education to students once per week; a variety of methods and free materials may be used.