

Frequently Asked Questions 2022 SD Farm to School Mini-Grant Program

1. Can the award be used for food?

Yes. Up to 10% of the award can be used for local food purchases. If a district receives \$5,000 in a grant award, up to \$500 could be used toward local food purchases.

2. Can the awards be used for meat processing fees? For example, if a producer donates a whole cow, can the funds go to have the cow butchered?

Yes. Up to 10% of the award can be used for meat processing fees. However, this contributes to the 10% limit for local food purchases. So, if a school receives \$5,000 in a grant award, up to \$500 could be spent in total from local food purchases + meat processing fees.

3. Are buildings and structures (such as greenhouses) allowable purchases?

Depends. Assembling a temporary or movable structure is an allowable cost. Building or renovating a permanent and/or stationary structure (such as pouring cement, significantly altering the footprint of a building, wiring, etc.) is not an allowable cost.

4. Can the awards be used to pay a temporary garden coordinator or other staff stipend?

No. This grant program is intended to increase farm to school capacity sustainably into the future. A temporary hire would not be sustainable and is not allowed through this program. See next question for more clarification on paying for services.

5. Can awards be used to pay for services? For example, an expert providing a presentation, a producer hosting a field trip, or bus fees for a farm visit?

Yes. The award may be used for farm to school-related educational programming, such as a lecture or field trip, including bus fees.

6. Must the award contribute to only gardening equipment or can it be used for kitchen equipment?

The award can be used for gardening and kitchen equipment when processing local foods.