

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Grant program gets kids excited about fruits and veggies

MADISON – What is encouraging 63,000 students from throughout Wisconsin to try fruits like pears and starfruit and sample vegetables such as radishes and broccoli? It's the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, which provides eligible schools with reimbursements for fresh produce offered in the classroom, allowing students to taste both familiar and unfamiliar fruit and vegetable snacks.

The grant program, which is supporting 184 Wisconsin schools during the 2018-19 school year, exposes students to fresh produce they may not have access to at home. In doing so, the program also gives students a nourishing snack that helps sustain them through the school day. Survey comments from last year emphasized the importance of both aspects of the program: "It is so important for our children to have access to fresh fruits and vegetables because they can be so expensive for families, and this program also helps introduce new and different produce to our children."

"Some of the snack options offered were new items that students had never tried in their lives," commented another program director. While some foods like jicama, radishes, and papaya may take more sampling before they become favorites, survey comments showed the unfamiliar pomegranates and persimmons were a big hit, topping the list of favorite foods in many schools.

The program's impact reaches much further than snack time. Exposure to new, healthy flavors prompts students to ask their parents to buy produce they've tried in school, as well as increases student interest in eating fruits and vegetables during school lunch and breakfast. Some schools also have implemented school gardens or 'garden bars' at lunchtime, which support the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and continue bringing students and produce together.

"We want our schools to be able to support the entire student, and part of that goal includes nourishment," said State Superintendent and Governor-elect Tony Evers. "The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program gives our students tasting experiences that will help instill healthy eating habits, as well as increasing access to the foods themselves."

(more)

The popularity of the program has continued to grow in Wisconsin, with the review panel evaluating 236 applications for the 2018-19 school year. About \$3.2 million is available in the state for the 2019 federal fiscal year. Those eligible for the grants are required to have at least 50 percent of students receiving subsidized school meals or an equivalent rate for Community Eligibility Provision sites. Eligibility guidelines are prescriptive and require that schools with the highest level of free and reduced-price enrollment receive priority in selection. One commenter noted that “this is the key selection criterion, which ensures that the program benefits low-income children that generally have fewer opportunities to consume fresh fruits and vegetables on a regular basis.”

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program began in 2002 in just four states and has since become permanent and available to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Wisconsin adopted the program in 2008.

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**NOTES:** A list of schools receiving grants through the 2018-19 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program follows. This news release is available electronically at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2019-02.pdf>.

# Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

2018-19 Grant Recipients

**Abbotsford School District**

Abbotsford Elementary, \$18,600

**Adams-Friendship School District**

Adams-Friendship Elementary, \$18,351  
 Grand Marsh Elementary School, \$6,650

**Antigo Unified School District**

North Elementary, \$7,900

**Appleton Area School District**

Badger Elementary, \$17,000  
 Columbus Elementary, \$7,600  
 Horizons Elementary, \$18,150  
 Jefferson Elementary, \$18,500  
 Lincoln Elementary, \$20,900

**Ashland School District**

Lake Superior Intermediate, \$16,350  
 Marengo Valley Elementary, \$8,950

**Baraboo School District**

Al Behrman Elementary, \$18,160

**Barron Area School District**

Almena Elementary, \$3,250

**Bayfield School District**

Bayfield School, \$8,305

**Beloit School District**

Aldrich Intermediate, \$15,400  
 Converse Elementary, \$20,600  
 Cunningham Intermediate, \$19,450  
 Fran Fruzen Intermediate, \$18,900  
 Gaston Elementary, \$17,800  
 Hackett Elementary, \$20,200  
 McNeel Intermediate, \$19,150  
 Merrill Elementary, \$12,900  
 Robinson Elementary, \$24,350  
 Todd Elementary, \$25,450

**Bruce School District**

Bruce Elementary, \$9,550

**City of Milwaukee (Charter)**

Central City Cyberschool, \$17,250  
 Cyberschool Preschool, \$2,950

**Rocketship Education Wisconsin Inc.**

Rocketship Southside Community  
 Prep, \$28,995

**Cornell School District**

Cornell Elementary, \$9,500

**Cudahy School District**

Kosciuszko Elementary, \$12,226  
 Park View Elementary, \$10,150

**Eau Claire Area School District**

Longfellow Elementary, \$13,250  
 Prairie Ridge Early Learning, \$17,250

**Fond du Lac School District**

Chegwin Elementary, \$17,900  
 Parkside Elementary, \$12,350  
 Riverside Elementary, \$15,450

**Green Bay Area Catholic Education Inc.**

Saint Thomas More School, \$7,300

**Indian Community School**

Indian Community School of  
 Milwaukee, \$18,400

**Janesville School District**

Adams Elementary, \$16,302  
 Jackson Elementary, \$16,205  
 Jefferson Elementary, \$16,800  
 Lincoln Elementary, \$18,598  
 Madison Elementary, \$23,142  
 Washington Elementary, \$17,073  
 Wilson Elementary, \$13,250

**Kenosha Unified School District**

Bose Elementary, \$15,750  
 Brass Community Elementary, \$25,600  
 Edward Bain School of Creative  
 Arts, \$22,950  
 Edward Bain School of Dual  
 Language, \$16,600

Frank Elementary, \$18,200

Grant Elementary, \$14,250  
 Grewenow Elementary, \$18,100  
 Jefferson Elementary, \$12,950  
 McKinley Elementary, \$15,150  
 Strange Elementary, \$24,050  
 Vernon Elementary, \$14,800  
 Wilson Elementary, \$8,400

**Lac du Flambeau School District**

Lac du Flambeau Elementary, \$27,690

**Madison Metropolitan School District**

Allis Elementary, \$24,450  
 Falk Elementary, \$18,400  
 Glendale Elementary, \$25,450  
 Hawthorne Elementary, \$19,350  
 Lake View Elementary, \$13,000  
 Leopold Elementary, \$36,450  
 Lindbergh Elementary, \$8,500  
 Mendota Elementary, \$16,200  
 Orchard Ridge Elementary, \$14,700  
 Sandburg Elementary, \$24,050  
 Schenk Elementary, \$21,000

**Manitowoc School District**

Jefferson Elementary, \$20,250

**Mauston School District**

Grayside Elementary, \$12,700

**Menasha School District**

Banta School, \$11,850  
 Gegan Elementary, \$15,900

**Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin**

Menominee Tribal School, \$10,500

**Milwaukee (Private Schools)**

Achieving Educational Excellence Inc.  
 St. Augustine Preparatory  
 Academy, \$14,400  
 Atonement Lutheran School, \$16,040  
 Believers in Christ, \$9,700

Blessed Sacrament, \$9,000  
 Blessed Savior Catholic School, \$8,050  
 Blessed Savior Catholic School  
 South, \$4,500  
 Christ-St. Peter Lutheran School, \$7,586  
 Christ-St. Peter Lutheran School, \$4,025  
 Early View Academy of  
 Excellence, \$5,300  
 Messmer St. Mary, \$21,850  
 Messmer St. Rose, \$23,000  
 Cross Trainers Academy, \$9,650  
 Northwest Catholic-Lower  
 Campus, \$10,905  
 Our Lady Queen of Peace, \$7,950  
 Prince of Peace, \$13,000  
 Prince of Peace School, \$9,000  
 Saint Adalbert Grade School, \$22,800  
 St Joseph Academy, \$23,450  
 St. Marcus Lutheran School, \$34,300  
 St. Marcus North Campus (ECC), \$8,000  
 Victory Christian Academy, \$7,500

#### **Milwaukee Public Schools**

ALBA, \$24,800  
 Allen-Field Elementary, \$32,050  
 Andrew Douglas School, \$15,150  
 Auer Avenue Elementary, \$14,550  
 Barbee Elementary, \$16,700  
 Bethune Academy, \$28,450  
 Brown Street Academy, \$16,050  
 Bruce Elementary, \$12,900  
 Bryant Elementary, \$11,800  
 Clarke Street Elementary, \$15,100  
 Clemens Elementary, \$15,600  
 Clement Avenue Elementary, \$23,250  
 Craig Montessori School, \$19,550  
 Doerfler Elementary, \$31,650  
 Elm Creative Arts Elementary, \$22,350  
 Emerson Elementary, \$13,050  
 Engleburg Elementary, \$14,000  
 Fifty-Third Street Elementary, \$21,350  
 Forest Home Elementary, \$34,800  
 Franklin Elementary, \$17,050  
 Gaenslen Elementary, \$39,350  
 Grant Elementary, \$33,950  
 Grantosa Drive Elementary, \$31,950  
 Green Bay Avenue, \$13,500  
 Greenfield Bilingual, \$34,400  
 Hampton Elementary, \$11,950  
 Hartford Avenue Elementary, \$30,350  
 Hawley Environmental School, \$18,400  
 Holmes Elementary, \$15,100  
 Honey Creek Elementary, \$20,150  
 Hopkins Lloyd Elementary, \$13,900  
 IDEAL, \$16,150

Jackson Elementary, \$16,050  
 Keefe Avenue Elementary, \$12,350  
 Kilbourn Elementary, \$14,750  
 La Causa Charter School, \$39,850  
 LaFollette Elementary, \$13,200  
 Lowell Elementary, \$12,850  
 Maple Tree Elementary, \$15,550  
 Metcalfe Elementary, \$15,050  
 Milwaukee French Immersion, \$30,650  
 Milwaukee Parkside School, \$40,500  
 Milwaukee Spanish  
 Immersion, \$13,750  
 Milwaukee Spanish  
 Immersion II, \$21,350  
 Ninety-Fifth Street  
 Elementary, \$20,450  
 Obama SCTE, \$15,050  
 Parkview Elementary, \$21,550  
 Pierce Elementary, \$18,800  
 River Trail Elementary, \$23,000  
 Rogers Street Academy, \$33,050  
 Sherman Elementary, \$18,100  
 Siefert Elementary, \$15,900  
 Starms Discovery School, \$17,450  
 Starms Early Childhood, \$15,300  
 Story Elementary, \$21,400  
 Stuart Elementary, \$15,550  
 Townsend Street Elementary, \$16,200  
 Westside Academy, \$14,850  
 Wisconsin Conservatory of  
 Lifelong Learning, \$16,850

#### **Northwood School District**

Northwood School, \$8,450

#### **Oneida Nation School System**

Oneida Nation Elementary, \$15,950

#### **Oshkosh Area School District**

Jefferson Elementary, \$7,800  
 Merrill Elementary, \$13,350  
 Washington Elementary, \$11,650  
 Webster Stanley Elementary, \$14,400

#### **Racine Unified School District**

Dr. Jones Elementary, \$19,250  
 Fratt Elementary, \$23,400  
 Julian Thomas Elementary, \$25,850  
 Mitchell Elementary, \$21,050

#### **Richland School District**

Jefferson Elementary, \$7,650

#### **Sheboygan Area School District**

Jefferson Elementary, \$18,700  
 Longfellow Elementary, \$16,600  
 Sheridan Elementary, \$13,350

#### **Tigerton School District**

Tigerton Elementary, \$6,600

#### **Tri-County Area School District**

Tri-County Elementary, \$13,000

#### **Two Rivers School District**

Koenig Elementary, \$13,250

#### **UW-Milwaukee (Charter)**

School for Early Development &  
 Achievement, \$4,340  
 Stellar Collegiate, \$6,558

#### **Waukesha School District**

Blair Elementary School, \$16,300  
 Whittier Elementary School, \$11,400

#### **Wausau School District**

Franklin Elementary School, \$15,150

#### **West Allis School District**

Franklin Elementary, \$18,100  
 Horace Mann Elementary, \$25,150  
 Jefferson Elementary, \$27,000  
 Longfellow Elementary, \$13,800  
 Pershing Elementary, \$12,600

#### **Wisconsin Rapids School District**

Grove Elementary, \$11,700  
 Howe Elementary, \$15,850  
 Mead Elementary Charter  
 School, \$18,600