



# Producer Cost-Share Program FAQs

## **1 What is the purpose of this program?**

The goal of this pilot program is to support small and medium-sized farmers and food producers that want to formally be designated with Good Handling Practices or Good Agricultural Practices. These designations are often required to enter the school supply chain through a distribution partner.

## **2 What producers or growers are eligible for this program?**

Any socially disadvantaged or historically underinvested-in farmers and food producers, or farmers and food producers located in under-resourced communities. Farmers or food producers must intend to enter the school supply chain in the next few years.

## **3 How do you define socially disadvantaged or historically underinvested in?**

A member of a group whose members have been subject to discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, sex, national origin, disability, and/or religion, including BIPOC-owned (Black, Indigenous, and people of color), women-owned, LGBTQ+-owned, veteran-owned, and small business enterprise.

## **4 How do you define underserved communities?**

Areas in which the population shares a particular characteristic, and geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

## **5 How much funding is available per farmer/food producer?**

Individual farmers or food producers can be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$4,000.

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- 6 What can farmers or food producers be reimbursed for as a part of this program?**  
Any audit, audit preparation service, or equipment that will help producers and growers process local foods to sell to schools. These could include: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Handling Practices (GHP), other food safety audits, consultant services to prepare for audits, or equipment needed to pass an audit. Please see our website for a suggested audit reimbursement list or reach out to Alison Patrick at [apatrick@ccbh.net](mailto:apatrick@ccbh.net) to see if your expense is eligible.
- 7 Is there a date that the expense for audits or audit preparation items are eligible for reimbursement?**  
Yes, any audit or audit preparation items purchased or paid for on or after October 1, 2024 are eligible for this program.
- 8 Can someone help me or my organization complete the application?**  
Yes, the Feed Our Future team is happy to help a farmer or producer complete the application. Virtual and in-person options are available. Please send an email to Alison Patrick at [apatrick@ccbh.net](mailto:apatrick@ccbh.net).



**FEED OUR FUTURE™**  
*Local Foods for Growing Minds*

## About Feed Our Future

Feed Our Future is dedicated to making fresh, local food accessible to ALL children, regardless of their school. We help connect schools with local food sources to improve student nutrition and well-being.

## Learn More

Visit [FeedOurFuture.org](https://FeedOurFuture.org) to learn how our initiatives support your school nutrition programs.