



State of Arizona  
Department of Education

HNS# 03-2016

**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** Sponsors Participating in the USDA Foods Program

**FROM:** Mary Szafranski, Associate Superintendent  
Arizona Department of Education, Health and Nutrition Services

**DATE:** March 8, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant Application Now Available

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The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is pleased to announce the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) grant application for the 2016-2017 school year is now available. The FFVP provides funding to Arizona schools for the purpose of exposing students to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables as well as educating the students on various FFVP components.

The goal of the FFVP is to contribute to a healthy school environment by providing healthy food choices, expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience, increasing children's fruit and vegetable consumption, and helping shape children's diets to impact their present and future health. To be considered for the FFVP grant, each school must submit a completed application by April 15, 2016.

Schools must meet the following criteria in order to qualify for the FFVP:

- Participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Schools must comply with federal and state guidelines for operating the program.
- Be an elementary school. An elementary school is any school that serves lunch to students in grades preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Have 50 percent or more of its students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Priority is given to schools with the highest percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals.
- Submit an application for each site that is interested in participating.



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**For eligibility purposes, FFVP applicants must use their school's free and reduced-price percentage from October 2015.** To determine eligibility for the FFVP please view the October 2015 Free and Reduced-Price Percentage Report located at: <http://www.azed.gov/health-nutrition/frpercentages/>.

The FFVP application process is web-based, and is available in the Grants Management Enterprise (GME) system located at: <https://www.ade.az.gov/gme/>. If you have not worked with ADEConnect in the past, or are not certain you have the proper credentials, please contact the ADE Support Desk at (602) 542-7378 or [adesupport@azed.gov](mailto:adesupport@azed.gov). Your log-in information for Common Logon system will not work with ADEConnect.

If you are unable to view the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable application or need technical assistance in completing the application, you may contact the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Specialist Michael Soto at (602) 542-8704 or [michael.soto@azed.gov](mailto:michael.soto@azed.gov). Paper applications will no longer be available or accepted.

**Completed applications with both "FFVP Period 1" and "FFVP Period 2" sections must be submitted by 1:00 pm MST Friday, April 15, 2016 to be considered.**



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