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Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program grants are available through SDE

(BOISE) – Child Nutrition Programs of the State Department of Education is now accepting applications for Idaho elementary schools to participate in the USDA’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP).

To be eligible for the FFVP, schools must meet the following criteria:

- Be an elementary school (eligible students in grades 1 through 6)
- Operate the National School Lunch Program
- Have more than 50 percent of enrolled students eligible for free/reduced-price meals
- Submit a complete application, including a signed Certification of Support

Selected Idaho elementary schools will be awarded grants to administer the FFVP from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Schools are awarded $50 to $75 per student for the school year to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables for the program. All grant awards are contingent upon available USDA funds.

Schools will make fresh fruit and vegetables available to students during the school day at no cost to the student. The goals of the FFVP are to increase student consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, to expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience, to positively impact their present and future health, and to create healthier school environments by providing healthier choices for students.

For more information on Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program requirements or for a copy of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant Application, visit the SDE Grant Opportunities page or call Child Nutrition Programs at 208-332-6834. FFVP applications must be postmarked or emailed by Friday, April 27.

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