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SDE offers Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program grants to schools

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

“This program is a wonderful way to increase children’s consumption of fresh, nutritious fruit and vegetables, including unusual or exotic foods children might not otherwise experience,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said. “It enhances students’ health and helps set them on a path for a future of healthy choices. This fun, nutritionally sound program is popular with educators, families and especially students.”

To be eligible for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, schools must:

- 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 or 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, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Schools will be 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.

Participating schools will make fresh fruit and vegetables available to students during the school day at no cost to the student.

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 208-332-6820. FFVP applications must be postmarked or received via email by Friday, May 8, 2020.

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