

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

Questions & Answers



Q-1. What are the FFVP hours of operation?

A. The program is available only during the school day, not before or after regular school hours.

Q-2. Can the fresh fruits and vegetables be served at the same time as the breakfast or lunch program but in a separate part of the cafeteria?

A. No. The FFVP can not be provided at the same time as the service of the breakfast or lunch program.

Q-3. How many times during the school week must fresh fruits and vegetables be offered?

A. We expect schools to offer fresh fruits and vegetables as many times as possible during the school week.

Q-4. Must fresh fruits and vegetables be offered the entire school year or can schools choose to offer the program a limited number of months?

A. We expect that the FFVP will be offered through the entire school year and not limited to certain months. One goal of the program is to encourage a positive change in eating habits and continual exposure to fresh fruits and vegetables is necessary and beneficial in making this change.

Q-5. Can FFVP funds be used to purchase nutrition education materials?

A. No. We suggest that schools find other methods to fund the cost of nutrition education materials.

Q-6. Can schools use FFVP funds for promotional costs?

A. No. Costs associated with promotional activities cannot be funded by the FFVP.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program – Questions & Answers

Q-7. Can we serve trail mix, nuts or dried fruit?

A. No. Only fresh fruits and vegetables can be purchased with FFVP funds.

Q-8. Can fruit smoothies, veggie pizzas and fruit pizzas be provided under the FFVP?

A. No.

Q-9. Are dips allowed?

A. Dips cannot be used for fruits. However, limited use of *low-fat* and *non-fat* dips for vegetables in a “serving size” quantity is allowed.

Q-10. Can cooked vegetables be provided and reimbursed in the FFVP?

A. Schools may only cook fresh vegetables as part of a nutrition education lesson not more than once a week. For example, if a class is studying nutrition, part of the lesson may be to learn about specific vegetables and their nutritional value. These vegetables should be ones not normally eaten raw. The vegetables must be fresh; not frozen, canned or dried. Schools may not claim any additional ingredients that are part of the cooked fresh vegetable dish.

Q-11. Do schools have to submit all supporting documentation with their claim for reimbursement?

A. No. However, the documentation must be maintained on file for review or audit.

Q-12. Are schools required to have separate purchase orders/invoices for the FFVP?

A. No, provided they can document on the purchase orders/invoices which purchases pertain to the FFVP.