



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Nava, Superintendent
Gadsden Independent Schools
P.O. Drawer 70
Anthony, NM 88021

Dear Ms. Nava:

The New Mexico Public Education Department, Student Nutrition Bureau is pleased to inform you that one or more of your schools has been selected to participate in the Fresh Fruit Vegetable Program (FFVP) for the SY 2011- 2012.

The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, also known as the Farm Bill, became law on May 22, 2008 (P.L.110-234). Section of P.L. 110-234 amended the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) by adding **Section 19, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)**. Under Section 19 of the NSLA, beginning July 1, 2008, the FFVP became a nationwide program that will operate in selected schools in the 50 States. The previous FFVP authorization under section 18 (f) of the NSLA was removed; funds already provided to the 11 permanent States and the six States originally funded through the 2006 Appropriation Act will continue to be available.

The total allocation for FFVP is divided into two obligation and expenditure periods:

1. The first allocation is to be obligated and expended during July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011.
2. The second allocation is to be obligated and expended during October 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

The funds allocated for each period are specific to expenditure for that period only. For example, funds awarded within the first period's allocation are to be obligated and expended for that period only; they **cannot** be carried over. Funds awarded within the second allocation must be expended by the grant period ending June 30, 2012.

In order to budget these funds, please submit an electronic Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) utilizing the PED OBMS (Operating Budget Management System) website. The flowthrough BAR process is located on the PED website at www.ped.state.nm.us.

Please submit an electronic Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) in the amount of **\$299,000.00** utilizing **Fund Code 24118 and Revenue Code 44500**.

The table below indicates the selected schools and the fund allocation. Please be advised that the July 2011 allocation **must** be obligated by September 30, 2011.

Local Education Agencies (LEA)	Gadsden Independent Schools
School :	Allocation:
Loma Linda Elementary	\$21,892.00
Riverside Elementary	\$37,284.00
Gadsden Elementary	\$26,780.00
Anthony Elementary	\$23,660.00
Berino Elementary	\$28,756.00
Sunland Park Elementary	\$20,228.00
Chaparral Elementary	\$39,676.00
North Valley Elementary	\$22,516.00
Vado Elementary	\$25,064.00
Desert Trail Elementary	\$37,908.00
LA Union Elementary	\$15,236.00
Total Allocation	\$299,000.00
Amount of Allocation to be Obligated by September 30, 2011	\$32,890.00

Use of Funds

Funds are to be used primarily to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables to be made available at no charge to students at least three days out of the school week. A school may use up to 10% of the funds for administrative cost. Please note that labor costs associated with preparing and distributing the fruits and vegetables are not considered administrative costs and should be shown as operating costs which must be reasonable and necessary.

The program should be structured so that the maximum benefits go to children. Information is provided in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Handbook under Appendix A, which can be obtained from <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/nutrition/index.html>

Expectations of Participating Schools

Participating schools are required to:

1. Publicize the availability of free fresh fruits and vegetables to the student body at least three days out of the week.
2. Begin the program at the beginning of the new school year.

3. Make fresh fruits and vegetables available to all elementary students throughout the school day as a supplement to (and not part of) the school breakfast and school lunch programs.
4. Provide nutrition education activities related to benefits of having fresh fruits and vegetables as snacks.
5. Submit a monthly claim for reimbursement.

The following resources will assist your school with ways to implement nutrition education and activities to promote the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.

Program:	Contact Information:
Team Nutrition Fruit and Vegetable Galore	USDA Team Nutrition – Ph: (703) 305-1624 http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov/
Healthier US School Challenge	http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/index.html
Fruit & Veggies- More Matters	http://www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org/

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sri Seshadri at (505) 827-1448 or srilakshmi.seshadri@state.nm.us or the Student Nutrition Bureau at (505) 827-1821. We congratulate you on taking part in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program as another way to help your students develop lifelong, healthier eating habits.

Warm regards,



Hanna Skandera
Secretary of Education, Designate

HS/ss

cc: Mr. Paul Aguilar, Deputy Secretary, Finance and Operations
Dr. Kris Meurer, Acting Assistant Secretary, Student Success Division
Ms. Susan Lucero, Bureau Chief, Flowthrough
Mr. Demetrious P. Giovas, Food Service Director