

OSPI Child Nutrition Services Grants Information Sheet

Plant Based Meals Grant Application

The Washington State Legislature provided \$75,000 to support grant for schools seeking to implement more plant-based meal options in school year 2023–2024. These funds will be distributed as competitive grants up to \$10,000 per school district to be spent during SY 2023–24. Applications must be certified by two authorized representatives of the LEA. Food Service Management Company representatives cannot certify the grant application.

Applications are due by 5 pm on December 21, 2023

Grant Period: February 2024 – June 30, 2024

Reporting Requirements

- ✓ Report how many students were impacted by grant activities.
- ✓ Provide a success story with 1-3 photos depicting grant activities.
- ✓ Report what foods were served and/or included in educational activities.

Application Questions

1. In which schools will you be implementing grant activities?
2. How much funding are you requesting? Districts and independent schools not operating under a district may request up to \$10,000 total.
3. Please check off which activities you will implement with these grant funds during the 2023-2024 school year (check off all that apply):
 - Purchase plant-based meat alternatives to replace meat in one or more menu item (1 point)
 - Standardize plant-based recipes to implement in your menu (2 points)
 - Teach students about plant-based foods through nutrition or agricultural education (2 points)
 - Purchase creditable plant-based fluid cow's milk alternatives (1 point)
 - Purchase equipment to support storage, preparation, and service of plant-based meals (2 points)
 - Pay for additional staff time to implement grant activities (1 point)
 - Purchase incentives or provide stipends for advisory group members (1 point)
 - Incorporate locally sourced plant-based foods on menu (2 points)



- Funds will support the development and/or service of culturally appropriate plant-based meals (such as plant-based halal and kosher menu options), including engagement with these communities to identify foods that meet their cultural needs (2 points)
 - Will use to support scratch cooking (2 points)
 - Engage with students in the planning, development, and testing of plant-based menu items (Work with a student advisory council, conduct taste tests with students, conduct a student survey to identify ideas and needs, etc.) (2 points)
 - Other (please describe planned activities) (1-2 points)
4. Describe how you plan to use these funds. In your response, please be sure to address each of the activities you checked off above. (10 points possible)
 5. Describe your school/district's financial need. (i.e., what financially prevents your district from implementing these changes using existing funding sources?) (10 points possible)

Other scored criteria:

We will also average the free and reduced-price meal eligibility in all district schools where activities will be implemented (using 2022 October Building Data).

Points Awarded	Free and Reduced-Price %
10 points	81-100%
8 points	61-80%
6 points	41-60%
4 points	21-40%
2 points	0-20%