A first of its kind in the state, Producer Equipment and Infrastructure Grants aim to help producers, fishers, and food businesses overcome barriers to serving school nutrition programs.

Provided through an interagency partnership between the Oregon Departments of Agriculture and Education, the Farm to School Producer Equipment and Infrastructure Grants help producers and processors with qualified infrastructure costs.

By supporting the purchase or installation of critical infrastructure, these funds can help make fruits, vegetables, meat, and prepared food items more accessible for school purchasing programs.

In addition, these grants directly support producers in marginalized communities with business support they need to meet this demand.

$2.9M
Total amount of project funds requested from 58 qualified applicants in the 2 rounds of the Producer Infrastructure & Equipment Grants since 2020.

$450K
Total amount of project funds granted to 12 recipients in 2020 & 2022.

$138K
In matching funds from producers, accounting for 30% of total project costs.

Producer Grants
Prioritized support for
- businesses owned or operated by Black, Indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC), women, veterans, or Tribes;
- producers or processors with fair labor practices;
- diverse representation of industries and regions of the state.
- processors sourcing at least 51% of ingredients from Oregon.

The 12 projects selected for funding since 2020 included
- 10 growers
- 1 processor
- 10 woman-owned businesses
- 4 BIPOC-owned businesses
- 8 rural businesses
- 4 urban businesses
- 1 multi-farm food hub

2021-23 Grantees
Deck Family Farm
Junction City, Oregon

Fry Family Farm
Medford, Oregon

Good Rain Farm
Gresham, Oregon

Gorge Farmer Collective
Mosier, Oregon

Quackenbush Farm
Eagle Creek, Oregon

Sweet Union Farm
Klamath Falls, Oregon

$500K requested for Producer Grants for the 23-25 biennium.
2021-23 Producer Equipment & Infrastructure Grant Funded Projects Totaling $200,000

Deck Family Farm | Junction City, Oregon
Growing Pasture Poultry Sales for Schools = $20,000
Deck Family Farm is a 320 acre working farm in Junction City producing lamb, pork, chicken, beef and dairy products. Applicant will install industrial grade scalder, vacuum sealer and grinder to meet ODA compliance of the 20,000 bird exemption for a licensed facility. Deck will expand sales to Eugene 4J, Mapleton School District, Network Charter School and the Multnomah County Educational Service District.

Fry Family Farm | Medford, Oregon
Extending the Season to Feed More School Kids in Jackson County = $48,609
Fry Family Farms is the largest organic vegetable and flower farm in Southern Oregon, owning more than 90 acres in the Rogue Valley. Farm will add equipment for three heated greenhouses to make seasonal extension possible and allow for more climate and moisture control. Farmer sells fresh fruits and vegetables to Medford, Phoenix/Talent, Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point and Grants Pass School Districts.

Good Rain Farm | Gresham, Oregon
Small Native Farm Seeks Infrastructure Funds for Farm to School Market Access= $39,033
Good Rain Farm (hast squeit) is an indigenously-owned farm that operates as a single member LLC on 2 acres of rented farmland located in Gresham, OR. Good Rain Farm will implement a harvester, mobile wash and pack, and refrigerated retro-fit project to be able to sell culturally specific fruits and vegetables to Eugene 4J School District and the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice (NSLP participants).

Gorge Farmer Collective | Mosier, Oregon
Modeling a Farmer-Coop’s Streamlined Approach to Local Food Purchasing and Distribution for Schools = $31,786
The Gorge Farmer Collective (GFC) is a farmer-owned cooperative and food hub located in the Columbia River Gorge. GFC markets, aggregates and distributes locally produced products from 25 member owners (75% of the produce sourced is from Oregon farmers). GFC will expand products for the Hood River School District.

Quackenbush Farm | Eagle Creek, Oregon
Quackenbush Farm to School Equipment and Infrastructure = $53,843
Quackenbush Farms is a sole proprietor small farm business, woman owned and operated, producing certified organic produce including various vegetables, roots, and specializing in heirloom leafy greens. Applicant seeks funding to expand on farm food safety program to meet GAP/GHP requirements to be able to expand sales to schools that require this level of certification, including Beaverton School District and Estacada School District.

Sweet Union Farm| Klamath Falls, Oregon
Expanding Production for Klamath County Schools = $6,729
Sweet Union Farm is a small diversified market vegetable farm located near Klamath Falls. Producer will install equipment to continue to expand sales of mixed greens to participants in the Farm to Child Nutrition Program in the Klamath School District, including a cool bot unit, water tank and work station.

CONTACT
Melina Barker, Director
Oregon Farm to School & School Garden Network
melina@oregonfarmtoschool.org
541-890-7004
Maintain funding that supports farms, kids and healthy, resilient communities

Supporting local farmers | Keeping federal dollars in Oregon | Investing in community based solutions | Local food systems and schools as hubs, centers of support when communities face crisis | Hands-on learning and connection to nature

Farm to School Grants provide funding for schools to purchase healthy, local foods, supporting local farmers and providing economic relief and recovery.

Farm to School is leveraging and keeping millions of federal dollars in Oregon, and at the same time providing Oregon fruits, vegetables, meats, beans, grains and dairy to hungry kids before, during and after school.

Student physical and social-emotional health is supported by hands-on learning in school gardens, nourishing food and connection to their local community.

And recent history has shown us that this comprehensive suite of Farm to School Grant Programs has been a critical tool for communities who rely on the strength of their local food system and local schools to be hubs for support during times of crisis.

What do Farm to School Grants fund?

Oregon Food | School districts, summer meal programs, Head Start and other early childcare and education sites purchase Oregon foods through an opt-in grant program; competitive grants are available for districts making the most impactful, healthy purchases.

Education | Districts and partner organizations educate children about food and agriculture.

Infrastructure and Equipment | Producers meet the needs of schools, and increase their capacity to sell to schools and other institutions.

Technical Assistance | Training and resources are available for Farm to School stakeholders to support program success.

A smart economic investment:
- Every dollar spent by grantees, nearly doubled in state economic activity
- Every dollar invested by the state leads to $2.20 in state GDP
- Grantee investments in equipment and training support community-based workforce development.

Maintain at current $10.M funding
WE SUPPORT OREGON’S FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM!

See our full list of endorsements at oregonfarmtoschool.org/maintaining-funding-for-farm-to-school

Our business has benefited greatly from these funds. We have been able to receive many more school orders because of them, which has been a huge blessing. It has been great to see the positive impact that the Grant Program has had on so many businesses.

LUCY DE LEÓN, OWNER - SALSAS LOCAS