

South Dakota Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

This program is seen as an important catalyst for changes in efforts to combat childhood obesity by helping children learn healthful eating habits. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) introduce schoolchildren to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not have had an opportunity to sample.

Goals of the FFVP

- Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children’s fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children’s diets to affect their present and future health.



Program Basics

- The USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program makes fresh fruit and vegetable snacks available at no cost to all children in participating schools. Check out the handbook at <https://www.fna.usda.gov/ffvp/handbook-schools>.

School Selection Criteria

- Be an elementary school
- Operate the National School Lunch Program
- Submit an application for participation
- Priority given to elementary schools with 50% or more of students eligible for free/reduced price meals
- Total enrollment of all schools selected must result in a per-student allocation of \$50-\$75

How & When to Serve FFVP Snack

- Provide fresh fruits and vegetables “bell to bell” during the school day—not before or after regular school hours.
- Fresh fruits and fresh vegetables offered as part of the FFVP must be offered outside the breakfast and lunch mealtimes.
- Widely publicize within the school the availability of free fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Multiple distribution times and methods may be used. Schools decide what time of the day is most beneficial for students to receive their snack.
- Fresh fruits and vegetables may be served in a variety of locations, such as the classroom, in hallways after coming in from recess, at kiosks, inside the nurse’s office, in the school’s offices
- Classroom teachers may eat the fresh fruits and vegetables as a role model for healthy eating habits.