



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 16, 2020

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Administrators  
Nonpublic School Administrators  
Residential Child Care Institution Administrators

**FROM:** Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*  
Finance and Operations

**SUBJECT:** National School Lunch Program (NSLP)  
Equipment Assistance Grant 2021 - REVISED

Michigan has been selected to receive over \$600,000 in federal funds to provide School Food Authorities (SFAs) with grants to purchase, renovate, install, and/or replace food service equipment. The grant funding is intended to help schools serve healthier meals with a focus on serving more fruits and vegetables, improving food safety and energy efficiency, improving meal quality, and expanding access to school meal programs. **The application deadline has been extended for these grants to May 4, 2020.**

**Who Can Apply?**

Any SFA participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) including:

- Public School Districts
- Public School Academies
- Intermediate School Districts
- Nonpublic School Districts
- Residential Child Care Institutions

**Grant Criteria:**

This is a competitive grant consistent with federal requirements. Priority is required to be given to:

- High-need school buildings where 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals (e.g., schools in underserved areas, schools with limited access to other resources, or schools with very old equipment).
- First time applicants. SFA buildings/sites that have not received this grant in the past under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) or the FY 2010, FY 2013, FY 2014, FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017 Agriculture Appropriations Acts.

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- Districts that can demonstrate how the effectiveness of the equipment purchased will reflect the intent of the grant to serve healthier meals with a focus on serving more fruits and vegetables, improving food safety and energy efficiency, improving meal quality, and expanding access to the school meal programs, such as school breakfast and school lunch.

**Equipment requests may include:**

- New equipment
- Renovation of equipment
- Installation costs
- Replacement of equipment

Federal regulation 2CFR Part 200.33 defines equipment as “articles of nonexpendable, tangible personal property with a useful life of more than one year and a per unit acquisition of \$5,000 or more,” or the lesser amount that is established in the SFA capitalization policy.

**Grant amounts:**

Maximum: \$25,000 per building/site

Minimum: \$1,000 per piece of equipment, not in the aggregate

These values do not include the cost of installation and/or any delivery fees.

**Application Timelines:**

The grant application is available through the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+) at <https://mdoe.state.mi.us/MEGSPPlus> and is listed as the NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant under Fiscal Year 2021. The application must be initiated by a “Level 5” authorized official or a “Level 4” application administrator. Grant applications are due by close of business on May 4, 2020. It is expected that grant funding will be awarded in May 2020.

SFAs must complete their procurement and expenditure activities by September 30, 2021. SFAs will be required to submit quarterly reports on the progress of grant activities until all funds provided are spent.

**Procurement of Equipment:**

Federal, state, and local procurement laws must be followed when purchasing equipment with these grant awards. Federal procurement regulations located in 2CFR Part 200 and 7CFR Part 210 apply to this grant. Equipment competitively procured using these grant funds must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable. For example, while using these grant funds to purchase a walk-in freezer for school food service or a salad bar may be an allowable cost, building an extension to a cafeteria would not meet the intended purposes of this grant. This is per USDA FNS memo SP 15-2019, pg. 2. Each SFA is responsible for ensuring that its procurement and contracts comply with all applicable laws, regulations, program instructions, and guidance materials.

**For Further Information:**

If you have questions regarding the NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant, please contact Brenda Sweatman by email at [sweatmanb@michigan.gov](mailto:sweatmanb@michigan.gov) or 517-335-6617.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance