

USDA Foods and Consortia Facts

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) procures foods through direct appropriations from Congress, and under surplus-status and price-support activities. The foods are distributed to State Agencies for use by School Food Authorities (SFA) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). On the average, USDA Foods make up approximately 20 percent of the foods served at participating agencies in the form of beef, pork, fish, poultry, dairy, fruits, vegetables, oil and grain. Some of those items are delivered in raw form while others are diverted to a manufacturer for further processing (chicken patties, pizza, cheeses, etc).

To receive USDA Foods, Michigan SFA's choose one of three consortia when completing their NEXSYS Coordinated application for NSLP. Membership in a consortium is a commitment for a period of one year. Each consortium procures the distribution, warehousing, and processing of USDA Foods and Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for all school districts in its consortium. Schools that join a consortium will preorder USDA Foods beginning as early as November for delivery during upcoming school year. Entitlement used for these purchases is calculated using prior year lunch counts multiplied by current commodity entitlement rate. For further program information, contact Jaime Malnar at malnarj1@michigan.gov or by phone 517-335-3792.

Questions regarding the consortia should be directed to the contacts listed below:

Great Lakes Consortium (GLC)

Karen Watson - 800-632-4572 or glc_administrator@hpsnet.com

Nancy LaFave - 906-789-5597 or nlafave@eskymos.com

Distributor: Gordon Food Service (GFS)

GLC Website / PAL Report Location: <https://glc.hpsusdafoods.org/>

Macomb Oakland RESA (MOR)

Chuck Wolford - 734-740-2915 or Wolford@macservcorp.com

Lori Adkins - 248-209-2102 or Lori.Adkins@oakland.k12.mi.us

Joy Hartman - 248-682-0394 or hartman@owosso.k12.mi.us

Distributor: VanEerden

MOR PAL Report Location: <http://veorders.vaneerden.com/>

School Purchasing and Resource Consortium (SPARC)

Sara Gasiorowski - 844-662-3767 ext.123 or sparc@proteamadvisors.com or sara@proteamadvisors.com

Karen Thomas - Thomas-karen@aramark.com

Distributor: SYSCO Food Service

SPARC Website / PAL Report Location: www.michigansparc.com