



FY 2026 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants Request for Applications

October 5, 2026

An opportunity has been provided by the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services for National School Lunch Program (NSLP) sponsors to obtain new equipment or to renovate or replace existing equipment. The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) has \$183,851.00 available for competitive grants.

Application

- The *National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant Application* is available at <https://cnw.ksde.gov>, SNP, What's New. Only one application per sponsor will be accepted.
- Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis.

Eligibility

- Applicants must participate in the NSLP.
- Any participating NSLP sponsor may apply.
- Priority will be given to applicants that have not received a previous NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Award.

Use of Funds

- Funds may be requested for new equipment, renovation, or replacement of equipment. Requests may be designated for the cost of equipment plus delivery, installation, testing and removal of old equipment.
- Multiple pieces of equipment may be requested. **Each piece of equipment purchased must have a value of greater than \$1,000.**
- Equipment purchases must help to improve the following focus areas:
 1. Nutritional quality of school meals that meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
 2. Safety of food served in the school meal programs (e.g., cold/hot holding equipment, dish washing equipment, refrigeration, milk coolers, freezers, blast chillers, etc.).
 3. Support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the School Breakfast Program.
 4. Ability to increase the efficiency of procurement, food storage, and distribution/service.
 5. Ability to expand participation in the school lunch programs (e.g., equipment for serving meals in a non-traditional setting or to better utilize cafeteria space).
 6. Ability to use local foods (e.g. additional refrigeration units, two-compartment produce-washing sinks, serving line and salad bar equipment, mechanical vegetable slicers and choppers, etc.).
 7. Strategies for adopting lunchroom changes that provide more convenience and appeal to the student population (e.g. a Grab-N-Go Line, a convenience store style cooler for parfaits and yogurts, Kiosk abilities for Breakfast after the Bell, etc.).
- KSDE reserves the right to select specific items for approval within an application.

Period of Performance

- Applications must be postmarked by November 13, 2026.
- Grants to qualifying sponsors will be announced the week of December 14, 2026.
- Grant recipients must fully expend grant funds by May 14th, 2027. Reallocation of funds will be reviewed the week of May 17th, 2027, if applicable.



Procurement

- Obligations to purchase made prior to grant award are ineligible for funding.
- All Federal, State, and local procurement laws and regulations when purchasing equipment with the grant awards must be followed.
- Preliminary grant awards will be based on informal price quotes.
- Final grant payments will be determined by invoices for equipment purchased.
- Equipment purchases of \$20,000 or more require formal advertising and sealed bids.
- Equipment requests may include new equipment, renovation of equipment, or replacement of equipment. Regulations at 2 CFR Part 200.33 define equipment as tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. **However, equipment purchased must have a value of greater than \$1,000.**
- As with all Federal grant funds, procurement regulations at 7 CFR Part 210.21 and 2 CFR Part 200.317-327 applies, and equipment competitively procured using these grant funds must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable.
- Sponsors are expected to **fully expend** grant funds by the subgrant deadline.
- Installation costs are considered an allowable expense.
- USDA has approved the KSDE list of equipment typically purchased by Sponsors that will receive automatic KSDE approval and may be purchased following proper Federal, State and local purchasing procedures without submitting a request to KSDE for approval. See KSDE Child Nutrition Program Equipment List. **If a Sponsor chooses equipment that is not included on the USDA approved list, they must submit a request for approval to the Director of Child Nutrition Programs, KSDE prior to purchasing the item as required at 2 CFR Part 225, Appendix A, Section 15.**
- Subgrantees must follow the rules outlined in 7 CFR 210.14(a); noting the construction of buildings is prohibited.

Selection Criteria

Each application will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- Opportunities to improve the nutrition and quality of meals, including supporting the implementation of updated nutrition requirements for school meals.
- Age or lack of appropriate food service equipment.
- Ability of food service equipment to increase the efficiency of procurement, food storage, and distribution/service.
- The availability of existing State and local funding for equipment purchases.
- Strategies for adopting cafeteria changes that provide more convenience and appeal to the student.
- Equipment purchased ensures schools can serve healthier meals
- Support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the School Breakfast Program.
- Procurement timeframe is acceptable
- Costs appear reasonable
- Equipment will be used solely for benefit of school meals
- Supports expanded participation in NSLP
- Allows increased utilization of local foods
- Priority to schools that have not received a previous NSLP Equipment grant award
- Application is complete

**Guidance on Equipment**

The Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) has published “Facility Design and Equipment Purchasing for School Nutrition Programs”. It provides information to assist with decision making on school food service equipment selection. This resource is available on ICN’s website: <http://www.theicn.org/>.

Questions

If you have questions, please contact Eryn Davis (785-296-5060 or eryn.davis@ksde.gov) or Kelly Chanay (785-296-2276 or kelly.chanay@ksde.gov).

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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**FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICE
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FY 2026 NSLP Equipment Assistance**

Note: Grant Recipients chosen for an award must comply with the following regulations, principals, and assurances. As applicable.

REGULATORY AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance:** This Federal financial assistance award is subject to rules and regulations related to the Recipient's organizational entity type as noted below.

Government-wide Regulations

- 2 CFR Part 25: "Universal Identifier and System for Award Management"
- 2 CFR Part 170: "Reporting Sub-award and Executive Compensation Information"
- 2 CFR Part 175: "Award Term for Trafficking in Persons"
- 2 CFR Part 180: "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-Procurement)"
- 2 CFR Part 200: "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards"
- 2 CFR Part 400: USDA's implementing regulation of 2 CFR Part 200 "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards"
- 2 CFR Part 415: USDA "General Program Administrative Regulations"
- 2 CFR Part 416: USDA "General Program Administrative Regulations for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments"
- 2 CFR Part 417: USDA "Non-Procurement Debarment and Suspension"
- 2 CFR Part 418 USDA "New Restrictions on Lobbying"
- 2 CFR Part 421: USDA "Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)"
- 7 CFR Part 3: "Debt Management"
- 7 CFR Part 16: "Equal Opportunity for Religious Organizations"
- 41 U.S.C. Section 22 "Interest of Member of Congress"
- **Liabilities:** The Recipient may not seek any financial recourse from the Agency as a result of any liabilities the Recipient may incur for bodily injury or personal property damage resulting from negligent acts, errors, or omissions of the Recipient, their officers, agents or employees, or if applicable its sub-Recipients or their officers, agents, or employees, in performing this agreement. Liabilities of the United States are governed by the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 2671 et seq.
- **Privacy Act.** The Cooperator/Grantee shall follow the rules and procedures of disclosure set forth in the [Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a](#), and implementing regulations and policies, with respect to systems of records determined to be subject to the Privacy Act.
- **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).** Public access to Federal Financial Assistance records shall not be limited, except when such records must be kept confidential and would have been excepted from disclosure pursuant to the "Freedom of Information" regulation ([5 U.S.C. 552](#))

**PROPERTY STANDARDS**

- 2. Insurance Coverage:** The Recipient must provide the equivalent insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds.
- 3. Federally-owned and Exempt Property:** Title to federally-owned property remains vested in the Federal entity. The Recipient must submit annually an inventory listing of federally-owned property in its custody to the Agency. Upon completion of the project, or when the property is no longer needed, the recipient must contact the Agency for instruction on utilization or disposition ([2 CFR 200.312](#)).
- 4. Equipment:** Equipment is defined as tangible, nonexpendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$1,000 or more per unit. The purchase of equipment not included in the approved project budget is allowable only if it is specifically approved beforehand by the Agency and there is documentation to support that the purchase is necessary and reasonable to carry out project activities. Equipment records must be maintained that include the description of the equipment, the serial number or other identification number, the source of funding for the equipment (including the Federal Award Identification Number, or FAIN), the title holder, the acquisition date, the percentage of Federal participation in the project costs for the Federal award under which the equipment was acquired, the location, use, and condition of the equipment, and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and the sale price of the equipment. A physical inventory of the equipment must be taken, and the results reconciled with the equipment records every two years or at the grant close out, based on which of these occurs first. A Tangible Personal Property Report, SF-428, 428B, and 428S, must be submitted at award close-out to report the status of the equipment. The Recipient will follow the Agency's equipment disposition guidance and procedures as defined in [2 CFR 200.312](#).

CIVIL RIGHTS**5. Assurance of Civil Rights Compliance for Child Nutrition:**

"The Grantee hereby agrees that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.); all provisions required by the implementing regulations of the Department of Agriculture; Department of Justice Enforcement Guidelines, 28 CFR Part SO.3 and 42; and FNS directives and guidelines, to the effect that, no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity for which the program applicant receives Federal financial assistance from FNS; and hereby gives assurance that it will immediately take measures necessary to effectuate this agreement." By accepting this assurance, the Program applicant agrees to compile data, maintain records, and submit reports as required, to permit effective enforcement of nondiscrimination laws and permit authorized USDA personnel during hours of program operation to review such records, books, and accounts as needed to ascertain compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. If there are any violations of this assurance, the Department of Agriculture, FNS, shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Grantee, its successors, transferees, and assignees as long as it receives assistance or retains possession of any assistance from USDA.



RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS

- 6. Evaluation and Access to Records:** The Recipient will cooperate with any evaluation of the program by providing the Agency requested data and access to records. The Recipient will cooperate with any, as needed, on-site financial and/or technical reviews and audits at any time during the term of the agreement. In addition, the Recipient shall make all records pertaining to activities under the grant available for audit purposes. The Recipient will require any sub-recipient or contractors to comply with the requirements of this agreement and ensure that the Agency has access to any sub-recipient or contractors for purposes of evaluating, monitoring, or reviewing other operations or records as they relate to this grant. When entering into a sub-award, the Recipient shall ensure that the sub-recipient agreement contains any clause required by Federal Statute or Executive Order and their implementing regulations. Records pertaining to this grant shall be retained by the Recipient for a period of three years from the date of the submission of the annual financial status report, as required under [2 CFR 200.334](#).

NONCOMPLIANCE AND TERMINATION

- 7. Noncompliance:** As provided in [2 CFR 200.340](#), the Agency may unilaterally terminate this grant agreement or recover, withhold, or disallow costs of up to 100 percent of the funds made available under the agreement if the Recipient fails to comply with any term of the agreement. The Agency will consider failure to comply with the reporting requirements of this agreement to be a material failure to comply with the agreement and a basis for termination. If the Agency decides to take action against the Recipient for noncompliance under this agreement, the Agency will provide the recipient written notice of the basis for its determination.

In the event that an award is suspended and corrective action is not taken within 90 days of the suspension effective date, the Agency may issue a notice of termination. No costs that are incurred during the suspension period or after the effective date of termination will be allowable, except those that are specifically authorized by the suspension or termination notice or those that, in the opinion of the Agency, could not have been reasonably avoided.

Within 30 days of the termination date, the Recipient shall furnish to the Agency a summary of progress achieved under the award, an itemized accounting of charges incurred against award funds and cost sharing prior to the effective date of the suspension or termination, and a separate accounting and justification for any costs that may have been incurred after this date.

For more information, contact:



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