



Resource Compilation

General Procurement Regulations and Resources

Alliance for a Healthier Generation — Healthy Schools Program

Provides resources, tools, success stories, and recipes to help schools improve the nutritional quality of school meals. https://schools.healthiergeneration.org/resources_tools/

Minnesota Department of Education

State Procurement Laws (June 2008)

Describes state procurement laws regarding the small purchase threshold as revised to be consistent with the federal threshold. <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/FNS/SNP/ProcCont/index.html>

National Food Service Management Institute

"State Agency Guidance on Procurement"

Provide a web-based procurement training program available through The University of Mississippi's National Food Service Management Institute ("NFSMI"). This training provides state agencies ("SAs") and school food authorities ("SFAs") with a better understanding of how to best perform responsibilities in the area of SFA procurements and



provides information on the Federal procurement requirements. <http://www.nfsmi.org/Templates/TemplateDefault.aspx?q=cEIEPTEzNQ>

School Food Focus

Provides lessons from Learning Labs and resources on school food policy and procurement. http://www.schoolfoodfocus.org/?page_id=44

School Nutrition Association

Provides resources for school nutrition professionals on operating and promoting school nutrition programs, such as procurement toolkits and resources. <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/ResourceCenter.aspx>

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

*School Food Purchase Study-III;
Final Report (March 2012)*

Provide results of a national study on school procurement costs and trends. http://www.fns.usda.gov/Ora/menu/Published/CNP/FILES/SFSP3III_Final.pdf

USDA School Meals Program Regulations

Provides links to regulations, rules, and notices relevant to the operation of school meals programs. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/regulations.htm>

USDA Meal Pattern

Center for Science in the Public Interest

Provides tips, fact sheets, policy guides, and communication resources for parents, educators, and school officials. <http://cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/back2school.html>

National Food Service Management Institute

Provides resources for school officials to conduct a 6-hour training on the new meal pattern. <http://nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=425>

School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study-IV; Final Report (Nov 2012)

Provide results from a national study of school food service operations, school environments, and nutritional quality of school meals offered and served. http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/nutrition/snda_iv.asp

USDA Summary of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act

Provides a section-by-section summary of key provisions of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, including those related to child nutrition programs, WIC, and SNAP. http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/legislation/PL111-296_Summary.pdf

USDA Healthy Meals Resource Center

Collects resources and tools to help schools serve healthy meals. Includes a best practices center where school food authorities and state agencies can share resources that have helped them meet school meal regulations. <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/>
<http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/best-practices>

USDA School Meals Policy Memos

Provide continually updated list of policy memos issued by USDA clarifying new and existing school meals policies. Includes certification tools for meeting new nutrition standards. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/policy.htm>



Farm-to-School: General

JoAnne Berkenkamp, J.

“Making the Farm/School Connection: Opportunities and Barriers to Greater Use of Locally-grown Produce in Public Schools”

Presents findings from interviews with school food service directors in Minnesota on current food procurement practices, past experiences and barriers to procuring locally grown food, and strategies and opportunities to expand the use of locally grown food in Minnesota schools. http://www.farmtoschool.org/files/publications_120.pdf

National Farm to School Network

Provides publications, news, webinars, and networking resources in support of farm to school programs in K-12 schools nationwide. <http://www.farmtoschool.org/>

MN Department of Agriculture, MN Department of Health, University of Minnesota Extension

Minnesota Toolkit for Food Service

Provides resources, tools, and trainings to build and sustain a farm to school program, including fact sheets on state regulations in Minnesota. <http://www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school/toolkit/>

Northwestern MSLOC Master’s Program

“Project Sign Post: Direct Farm Business Regulation Outline and Farm-to-School FAQs”

Provide toolkit for farmers interested in establishing relationships with farm to school programs. Includes guidance on direct farm business and selling to schools, as well as case studies and other resources. http://www.farmtoschool.org/files/publications_393.pdf

Public Health Law Center

“Legal Issues Impacting Farm to School and School Gardens in Minnesota”

Provides an overview of key legal issues involved in operating farm to school and school garden programs, including food safety, Minnesota food licensing requirements, liability issues, issues regarding local preference for food procurement, and new issues raised by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. <http://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/ship-f2s-school%20garden%20legal%20issues-2011.pdf>

USDA Farm to School

Provides information and resources on USDA’s farm to school grants, programs, and policies. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/f2s/>

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

“Eat Smart—Farm Fresh! A Guide to Buying and Serving Locally Grown Produce in School Meals”

Describes distribution models for farm to school programs and success stories. Provides guidance and resources on building support for local purchasing, finding locally produced foods, meeting school meals requirements with farm to school. <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELDEV3101426>

Farm to School: Geographic Preference

National Farm to Cafeteria Conference Workshop

“Using Geographic Preference: What You Need to Know to Bring More Local Food to Your School” (Aug 5, 2012)

Provides examples of how to implement geographic preference into competitive bidding. <http://www.schoolfoodfocus.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/National-F2C-2012-Workshop-v5.pdf>

National Farm to School Network

“Summary of USDA Final Rule on Geographic Preference”

Summarizes the main points in the final rule regarding the definition of geographic area and unprocessed agricultural products. http://www.farmtoschool.org/files/publications_373.pdf

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

“Geographic Preference Q&As” (Feb 1, 2011)

Answers questions about applying geographic preference in procurement of local products. http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2011/SP18-2011_os.pdf

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

“Final Rule on Geographic Preference Option for the Procurement of Unprocessed Agricultural Products in Child Nutrition Programs” (April 22, 2011)

Provides the text of the final rule on the geographic preference option in the Code of Federal Regulations. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-04-22/pdf/2011-9843.pdf>

Food Safety

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

“Food Safety”

Provides information about outbreaks of foodborne illness, a list of current food safety recalls, and guidelines for prevention of and education about foodborne illness. <http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/>

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

“Guidance for Industry: Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards of Fresh-cut Fruits and Vegetables” (2008)

Provides recommendations for ensuring food safety with fresh fruits and vegetables. http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/GuidanceDocuments/ProduceandPlanProducts/ucm_064458.htm

University of Minnesota Extension

“Food Safety (Farm to School)”

Provides links to resources on farm safety and regulations specific to serving fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, grains, eggs, meat and poultry through a toolkit for food service. <http://www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school/toolkit/food-safety.html>



USDA Foods

Food Research and Action Center

“Commodity Foods and the Nutritional Quality of the National School Lunch Program” (Sept 2008)

Describes the history and current use of agricultural commodities in the National School Lunch Program, the current impact of commodities on the nutritional quality of school lunches, and recommendations for improvement. <http://frac.org/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/commodities08.pdf>

USDA Foods

Provides information on USDA’s food distribution programs, including a USDA Foods toolkit and resources for school nutrition professionals, parents, and the media. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/>

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

School Food Purchase Study III; Final Report (March 2012)

Provides estimates of the type, quantity, and cost of food acquisitions by public schools in the United States during the 2009-2010 school year, including information on school food procurement practices and use of USDA Foods. http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/CNP/FILES/SFSPIII_Final.pdf

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

White Paper: “USDA Foods in the National School Lunch Program” (Updated May 2010)

Describes how the USDA Foods Program is structured and administered and its role in the National School Lunch Program.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/foods/healthy/WhitePaper.pdf>

Collective Purchasing

Bloom & Hinrichs

“Moving local food through conventional food system infrastructure: Value chain framework comparisons and insights” (March 2011)

Study using a qualitative case study approach to examine how the existing food system infrastructure could be used to meet demand for local food as an intermediate step toward direct marketing. <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=7984690>

Conner, et al.

“Sustainable School Food Procurement in Large K–12 Districts: Prospects for Value Chain Partnerships” (April 2012)

Paper discussing current efforts and future potential to promote sustainable food procurement and overcome common barriers through national school food collaboratives and value chain partnerships. Includes case studies of the Denver and St. Paul public school systems. <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/123317/2/conner%20-%20current.pdf>

Rice, et al.

“Comparison of Cooperative and Noncooperative Purchasing in School Nutrition Programs” (Fall 2010)
Provides study assessing frequency of cooperative purchasing arrangements and various bid methods used, and comparing food costs and district satisfaction between cooperative and noncooperative purchasing. <http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Content.aspx?id=14754>

USDA

“Procuring Services of Purchasing Cooperatives, Group Purchasing Organizations, Group Buying Organizations, etc.” (June 12, 2012)
Outlines federal regulations regarding use of collective purchasing organizations by schools and conditions that must be met when using these organizations’ services. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2012/SP35-2012os%20.pdf>

Minnesota Resources

Minnesota School Nutrition Association (MSNA)
Provides site of a nonprofit association of school food service professionals. Resources include nutrition training and mentorship opportunities, nutrition certification, and industry memberships with updates on legislative and regulatory information. <http://www.mnsna.org/>

**University of Minnesota Extension Services
Great Trays™ Program**

Provides training and support for childhood nutrition to school professionals and parents through the Great Trays™ partnership and the University of Minnesota Extension. <http://www.extension.umn.edu/health/great-trays/>

These resources are provided as a supplement to *Feeding America’s Schoolchildren: Navigating the Complicated Legal Terrain and Practical Challenges of Federal School Nutrition Programs* (“Feeding America’s School Children”) to give readers additional sources of information on how to support school efforts in obtaining healthy food for use in federal school nutrition programs. They were identified through the research process of developing “Feeding America’s Schoolchildren” and are listed alphabetically within each topic. For more detailed discussion of these topics, see Mary Winston Marrow and Jennifer E. Pelletier, *Feeding America’s Schoolchildren: Navigating the Complicated Legal Terrain of Federal School Nutrition Programs* (2013) at <http://publichealthlawcenter.org>.

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