

NSLP Direct Delivery Gold Star Foods

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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Discussion Topics

- Understanding Full Truckload Requirements
- Understanding the impact of Direct Delivery requests
- Importance of unified demand across the region serviced by Gold Star Foods

How to utilize information in forecasting for School Year 2026

Full Truckload Requirements

- For USDA Foods to create a sales order, we must follow the guidance on full truckload quantities.
- This must adhere to "Quarter Truckload" requirements. For example, a truckload of 1,000 cases can only make a minimum stop of 250 cases.
- Truckloads can be split between additional warehouses, within certain constraints such as driving times.
- TDA must also consider the requested delivery periods to allow demand to be spread out and to prevent storage fees at the warehouse.

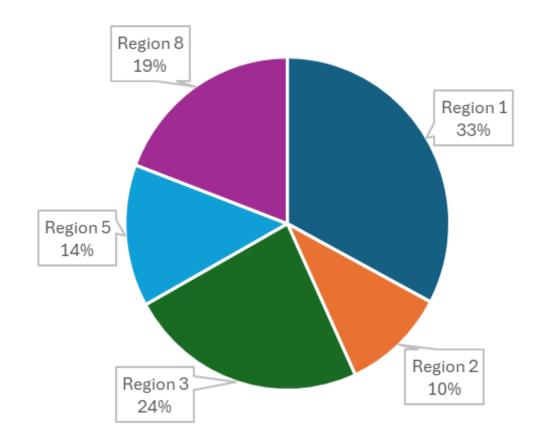
Direct Delivery Requests

How does forecasting impact truckloads?

- The demand for a material influences the creation of successful truckloads.
- Schools that place larger volume requests help ensure the availability of materials in their warehouse region.
- Spreading out requests among materials of similar categories can reduce volume and decrease the likelihood of a truckload being created.
 - For example, requesting multiple types of corn (such as frozen and canned) rather than choosing just one can impact truckload planning.

Who drives requests for the Gold Star Foods Region?

- KIPP Texas Public Schools
- Fort Worth ISD
- Comal ISD
- Bastrop ISD
- Mission CISD
- Waco ISD
- International Leadership of Texas
- Pasadena ISD
- Crowley ISD
- Keller ISD



What are some of the more common categories and materials in the Gold Star Foods Region?

Seasonal fruits and vegetables are extremely important due to their 'one-time buy' aspect.

- 100256 Strawberry Frz Cup-96/4.5 oz
- 100220 Peaches Cling Diced Ex Lt Can-6/10
- 100212 Mixed Fruit Ex Lt Can-6/10
- 100241 Peach Freestone Diced Frz Cup-96/4.4 oz
- 110859 Mixed Berry Frz Cup-96/4.oz
- 100225 Pears Diced Ex Lt Can-6/10
- 100348 Corn Frz Ctn 30lb
- 100307 Beans Green Can -6/10
- 100219 Peaches Cling Slices Ex Lt Can-6/10
- 100352 Carrots Frz Ctn 30 lb



What are some of the more common categories and materials in the Gold Star Foods Region?

Animal-based protein is traditionally one of the more expensive materials and fulfills the 'center of the plate' component

- 100158 Beef Fine Ground Frz Ctn-40 lb
- 100117 Chicken Fajita Strips Ctn-30 lb
- 100101 Chicken Diced Ctn-40 lb
- 110730 Pork Pulled Ckd Pkg 8/5lb



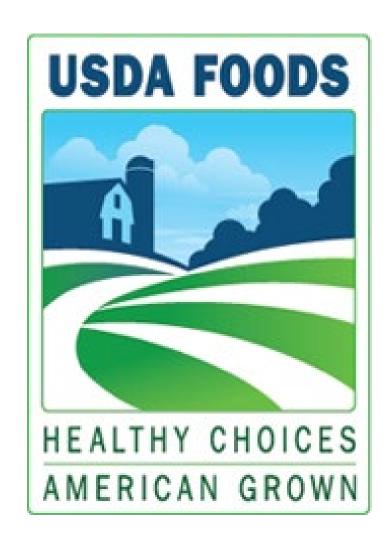




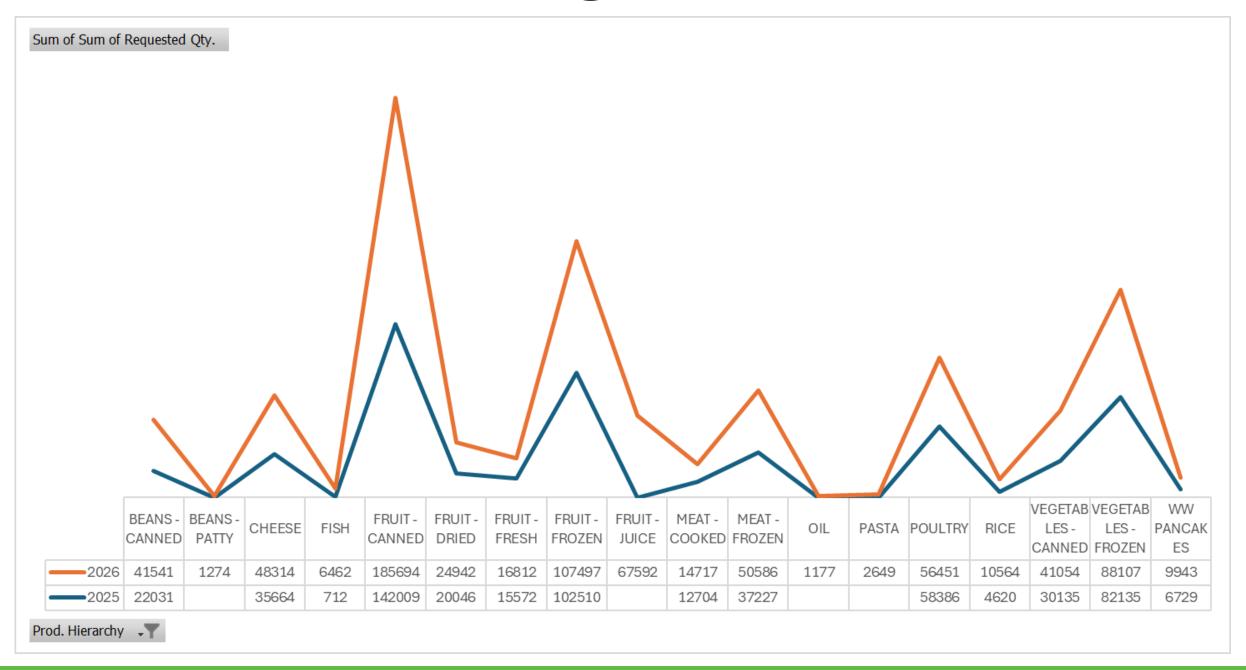
Recap PY 26 Review

Overall, we have 782 deliveries arriving to Gold Star for the upcoming school year.

- 111790 Apple Juice Cup 96/4 oz
- 110361 Applesauce Cup 96/4.5 oz
- 100158 Beef Fine Ground Frozen, Ctn. 40lb
- 100256 Strawberry Frozen Cups 96/4.5 oz
- 110541 Applesauce Unsweetened Can 6/10
- 100220 Peaches Cling Diced Ex Lt Can 6/10
- 100212 Mixed Fruit Ex Lt Can 6/10
- 100241 Peach Freestone Diced Frz Cup 96/4.4 oz
- 100365 Beans Pinto Can 6/10
- 110859 Mixed Berry Frz Cup 96/4 oz

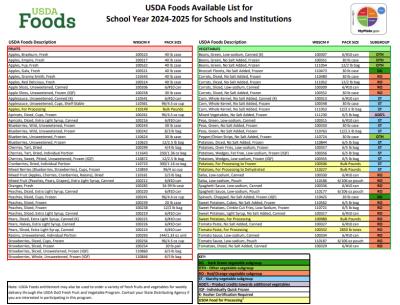


Ordering Trends



How Can We Utilize this Information?

- Understanding the importance of the USDA Foods Survey sent out by TDA at the beginning of the year.
- Utilizing the Foods Available List (FAL) released by USDA each year.
- Working with your ESC region and schools within your FDP region to better understand common material needs.
- Getting the most out of USDA Foods to maximize the Planned Assistance Level.



Reminders

Benefits of WBSCM

- **Real time data**: Provides up-to-date information on truckload status and the outcomes of ordering rounds, ensuring a clearer understanding of current operations
- Entitlement Values: Displays actual prices once the status is updated to "Purchased," offering accurate financial insights
- **Reports**: Review the Entitlement Bonus/Summary Report and the Requisition Status Report at least monthly to stay informed and manage inventory effectively
- Inventory Management: Take ownership of USDA Foods requested from Gold Star warehouse
- **Technical Support**: Contact your ESC for any technical assistance needed.

Preparing for SY 2027

- Review Requisition Status Report to begin forecasting for school year 26-27
- Complete opt-in for DoD participation in school year 2027
- Complete USDA Foods Survey
- Check beginning balance of Planned Assistance Level in Entitlement/Bonus Summary Report in December 2025
- Review which processors you have an awarded bid for in school year 2027 before ordering

Round 1 Processing Diversion Requests

Schools should not be requesting USDA Foods diverted to a processor when bid has not yet been awarded during round 1.

- o If you are due for a rebid, it is recommended to focus on direct delivery utilization
- o If you are in a renewal year you are safe to make requests as planned.
- Schools utilizing FSMCs or managing their own food bids should seek to complete procurement by end of December.
- If this is currently not your best practice, please reach out to your Cooperative or your schools procurement team
 to strategize completing the bidding process earlier.

Schools diverting pounds to only find out they do not have an award to draw down has an extremely negative impact on processor inventory.

- o This leads to unclaimed inventory at the processor impacting performance.
- o This impacts future ordering for the processor as TDA reviews excess inventory and performance metrics of schools.

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Please take a moment to complete this survey. Your feedback will help us understand how useful this information is for your ordering strategy and provide insights on deliveries to and from your state contracted warehouse.

Questions?

Thank you for attending this webinar today, we hope this will help you with your ordering for the next school year!

We're open to any questions you may have regarding direct delivery and USDA Foods in your region.