Local Food for Schools February 12, 2025 Office Hours

Tiffany Lankford, Nutrition Specialist Christie Beaulieu, Nutrition Grants Specialist Brendan Sweeney- Grants Specialist





Food and Nutrition Division Nutrition Assistance Programs TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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Meeting Agenda



Updates & Announcements

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Reimbursements

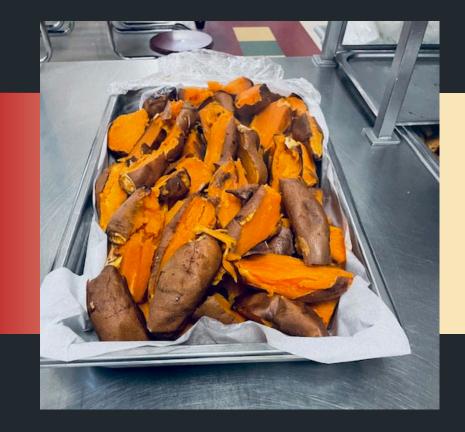


FAQ's



Questions

Grant Updates



Jefferson ISD-McCurry Farms



LFS Resources



LFS Resources on SquareMeals

www.squaremeals.org/LFS

LFS Vendor Resource List

• Updated list of vendors used by grant recipients is posted on our website. It is not required to use these vendors; if interested in pursuing procurement from any of the vendors listed, follow federal, state, and local regulations

Grantee Fund amount and reimbursement

• List of grantees and the amount awarded as well as how much reimbursement requested to date – updated monthly

Announcements



Florence ISD- Common Market

School Food Procurement Survey

What is it?

10-minute survey for school business officials Why should I take it?

- Helps improve school food procurement nationwide
- Help improve tools, training, and rule changes

Click <u>HERE</u> to complete this important survey through February 26th

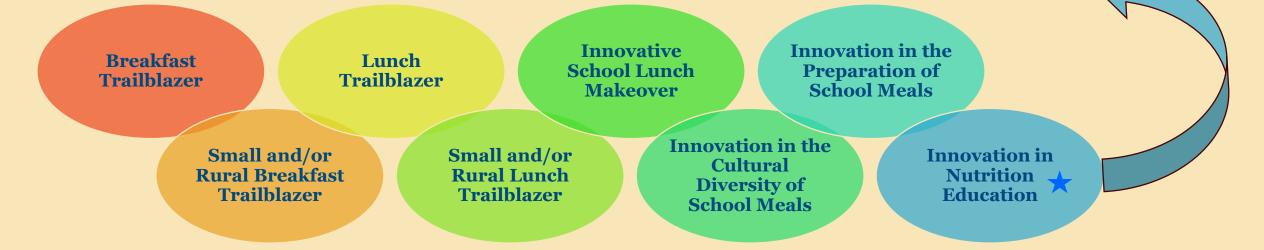
Healthy Meal Incentives (HMI)



HMI Recognition Awards

- 8 Categories Awarded on rolling basis
- Applications close June 30, 2025
- Visit <u>HMI Homepage</u>: healthymealsincentives.org
- www.squaremeals.org/HMI

Consider the Innovation in Nutrition Education since 1 of the 2 requirements are met with LFS participation!



Reimbursements



Lumberton ISD – Moore Honey

Reimbursements

- Reimbursed \$10,766,474 of \$22,311,051
- 48% of total funds reimbursed with only 1 month remaining
- Pending \$2.8 million

CE's with 0 Reimbursement Requests

ADRIAN ISD BARTLETT ISD BEN BOLT-PALITO BLANCO ISD **BLANCO ISD BRAZOSPORT ISD** CENTER ISD CHAPEL HILL ISD-TYLER COMANCHE ISD DAMON ISD EAST FORT WORTH MONTESSORI ACADEMY ECTOR ISD GARNER ISD GATEWAY CHARTER ACADEMY HULL-DAISETTA ISD JASPER ISD JIM HOGG COUNTY ISD **KELTON ISD KIRBYVILLE ISD** LINDSAY ISD

LONGVIEW ISD MCALLEN ISD PAINT CREEK ISD PATTON SPRINGS ISD PAWNEE ISD PEWITT CONS ISD PLEMONS-STINNETT-PHILLIPS PRAIRILAND ISD PRESIDIO ISD RIESEL ISD SAN ISIDRO ISD SANTA ANNA ISD SHARYLAND ISD SIERRA BLANCA ISD SOUTH TEXAS EDUCATIONAL TECH STRATFORD ISD TEXAS SAN MARCOS TREATMENT CENTER THREE RIVERS ISD THREE WAY ISD TIOGA ISD VALLEY VIEW ISD-PHARR VANGUARD ACADEMY WAELDER ISD WEBB CONSOLIDATED ISD WORTHAM ISD

Reimbursement Updates



Important Deadlines

- 1. Last day to make LFS purchases March 31, 2025
- 2. Last day to submit LFS reimbursement requests May 9, 2025

Notifications

- Email approval will be sent when Finance approves, the link to the Smartsheet won't allow you access.
- Reimbursement should be received within 60 days of Finance approval

Video Training on Reimbursement Process

- Available on webpage under LFS Resources
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9Odue7mrRI

Best Practices

- Submit the Payment Request Form in excel spreadsheet
- Consolidate reimbursement requests if it's the same vendor
- Bank statements aren't required
- Submit photos and recipes
- Provide proof that the vendor has local products
- For payment information check out: Comptroller's Search State Payments Issued website





Lake Travis ISD- Common Market

FAQ's

Q: Has a payment been deposited from TDA? You can view all deposits from TDA and other state agencies using Comptroller's Website Q: How can I check my remaining balance? A: On our website under LFS Resources. You will also receive notification once finance approves your reimbursement requests, which includes your remaining balance. Q: Where can I find local vendors? A: On our webpage, there is a list of vendors previous CEs have used

Questions?



Lexington ISD-Gilmore Beef and Cattle

Contact Us

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Portal: Reimbursement Form



TDA LFS Website: <u>www.squaremeals.org/LFS</u> Farm Fresh Network: <u>www.squaremeals.org/FarmFreshNetwork</u> Comptroller Vendor List: <u>ttps://mycpa.cpa.state.tx.us/tpasscmblsearch/</u> Food and Nutrition: <u>www.SquareMeals.org</u> 16



LocalFoodGrant@texasagriculture.gov

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1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

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