

2017
Equipment
Assistance Grants
for
Local Educational
Agencies



**Request for
Proposals (RFP)**

Maryland State Department of Education

200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

**Deadline
December 22, 2017
5:00 p.m.**

This document is available in alternate formats.

Name of Grant Program and Authorization:

2017 Equipment Assistance Grants for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, (Public Law 115-31).

Purpose:

To provide funding to LEAs for the purchase of equipment that will improve the quality of school meals or expand participation in in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

Dissemination: October 16, 2017

Deadline: December 22, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

The completed proposal must be submitted by email to Bruce Schenkel at bruce.schenkel@maryland.gov. Incomplete proposals and those submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Eligible Applicants:

LEAs participating in the NSLP.

Priorities:

1. Schools with 50 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
2. Schools that did not receive a previous NSLP Equipment Grant award under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the FY 2010, FY 2013, FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations Acts.
3. LEAs that justify the need for equipment based on the following criteria:
 - a. Equipment used to improve or expand participation in the NSLP and/or the School Breakfast Program;
 - b. Age of current food service equipment or lack of appropriate equipment;
 - c. Equipment that improves the safety of food served in the school meal programs;
 - d. Equipment that improves the overall energy efficiency of the school food service operations;
 - e. Equipment that improves the nutrition and quality of meals (e.g. replacing fryers with combination steamer-ovens);
 - f. Equipment that promotes smarter lunchrooms (e.g. lunchroom changes that provide more convenience and appeal to the student population, highlighting healthier choices); and
 - g. The availability of existing State and local funding for equipment purchases.

Requirements:

Proposals may include new equipment, renovation (refurbish or repair) of equipment, replacement of equipment, and installation costs. Equipment is defined 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. The State of Maryland has established a threshold of \$5,000. All individual items requested under this grant must be valued at \$5,000 or more, unless the LEA has established a lower threshold. Costs incurred prior to the approval of the grant may not be funded through the award.

Proposal Review:

Applications will be pre-screened for submission requirements and inclusion of all required sections. A review committee established by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) will evaluate applications. Reviewers will comment on the proposals and assign numerical scores. Final approval for awards will be determined by the review committee.

Award Notification: Notification of awards will be sent no later than January 31, 2018.

Total Funds Available: \$362,764

Estimated Number of Awards: 15 – 20

Estimated Range of Awards: \$5,000 to \$75,000

Performance Period: Two years (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2019)

Reporting Requirements:

Grantees must submit quarterly reports due on the last workday of December 2017, March 2018, June 2018, September 2018, December 2018, March 2019, and June 2019. A final report will be due before the last workday of September 2019. Reports must include the following:

1. Progress made in expending funds,
2. Accomplishments and challenges in expenditure activities,
3. Impact of purchased equipment on the school food service operation,
4. Reason for any unliquidated funds, and
5. Potential return of equipment.

Grant recipients chosen for an award must comply with the attached regulations, principals, assurances, and statements, as applicable.

Proposals must contain the following information:

1. Signed Applicant Information page;
2. Project Details (refer to pages 9 and 10 for additional information regarding equipment);
3. Proposal Narrative;
4. C-1-25 budget form; and
5. Signed Assurances.

Budget:

Complete the MSDE Grant budget on the attached form C-1-25. This grant will be recorded under 201 Administration – Program 21 General Support, column 05 - Equipment. Enter the total at the bottom of column 05.

Signed Assurances:

The attached assurances must be signed and dated by the Superintendent/Authorized Representative. Please read all assurances carefully.

Applicant Information

LEA Name:

LEA Number:

Total Funds Requested:

Name and Title of Contact Person:

Email:

Phone:

Fax:

Address:

Superintendent/Authorized Representative Signature

Date

PROJECT DETAILS (attach additional pages if necessary)

A	B*	C	D	E	F	G	H
School Name and Number	FARMS %	Facility Type	Total Enrollment Served by Proposed Equipment	Equipment Requested	Cost of Equipment, Installation, etc.	Focus Area(s)	Child Nutrition Program(s) Utilizing Equipment
		<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Production Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Central Kitchen				<input type="checkbox"/> Improve nutrition and meal quality <input type="checkbox"/> Improve food safety <input type="checkbox"/> Improve or expand participation in School Meals programs	<input type="checkbox"/> SBP <input type="checkbox"/> NSLP <input type="checkbox"/> At-Risk Afterschool Meals <input type="checkbox"/> SFSP
		<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Production Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Central Kitchen				<input type="checkbox"/> Improve nutrition and meal quality <input type="checkbox"/> Improve food safety <input type="checkbox"/> Improve or expand participation in School Meals programs	<input type="checkbox"/> SBP <input type="checkbox"/> NSLP <input type="checkbox"/> At-Risk Afterschool Meals <input type="checkbox"/> SFSP
		<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Production Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Central Kitchen				<input type="checkbox"/> Improve nutrition and meal quality <input type="checkbox"/> Improve food safety <input type="checkbox"/> Improve or expand participation in School Meals programs	<input type="checkbox"/> SBP <input type="checkbox"/> NSLP <input type="checkbox"/> At-Risk Afterschool Meals <input type="checkbox"/> SFSP
		<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Production Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/> Central Kitchen				<input type="checkbox"/> Improve nutrition and meal quality <input type="checkbox"/> Improve food safety <input type="checkbox"/> Improve or expand participation in School Meals programs	<input type="checkbox"/> SBP <input type="checkbox"/> NSLP <input type="checkbox"/> At-Risk Afterschool Meals <input type="checkbox"/> SFSP

* Free and reduced-price meal percentage(s) from October 31, 2016 is available at: www.eatsmartmaryland.org.

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE OUTLINE (to be submitted with Proposal)

1. Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

Describe the equipment requested. Will this equipment replace an older model of the same type of equipment or will this be the first of its kind in the kitchen? Does your LEA have existing local funding for equipment purchases?

The following may be included:

- Report the cost of maintenance and repair over the past year for present equipment.
- Provide estimate of cost of repairs vs. purchase of new equipment.
- Are parts available to repair old equipment?
- Will old equipment be moved to another school?
- If known at this time, include cost of removal of old piece of equipment.
- How will this equipment (basic facilities, equipment, services, and installations) improve your overall program's infrastructure and food service?

2. Focus Areas

Discuss how the request fits into the focus area(s) indicated in the Project Details chart and the Priorities on page 2 above. Additional aspects to consider may be:

- Changes to menus (e.g., increase fresh and/or locally-grown fruits/vegetables, new foods), time saved because of equipment use, etc.
- Sanitation inspection orders to update or replace equipment, the age of equipment being replaced, if the building's current electrical and plumbing systems support requested equipment, if equipment has computerized alarm systems, or temperature control auto recording.
- Estimate participation increases such as the number of students impacted by this equipment during SY 2017-18 and 2018-19 and/or how many years this piece of equipment will impact students. If equipment may be used for other child nutrition programs, what is the expected increase in participation in these programs?
- How will this equipment highlight healthier menu options or increase access to and appeal of nutritious foods?
- Energy rating on new equipment vs. old equipment being replaced.

3. Procurement Process

- a. Present a proposed timeline for the procurement of the equipment being requested. Are there plans to expend funds within one year of being awarded the grant?
- b. What steps will be taken to procure this equipment competitively, quickly, and successfully?
- c. Describe the LEA/school approval processes to purchase this equipment. Discuss any additional costs the school will need to expend to fully install/utilize this equipment.
- d. Indicate whether the equipment requested is a "stand alone" item or a part of a larger plan. For larger plans, indicate which items must be funded for the plan's success and what other funds exist if only partially funded by this grant. Alternate plans may also be included.

4. Justification for funding:

Discuss the reasons why this LEA/school(s) should be selected for an equipment assistance grant. Summarize the impact new or renovated equipment will have on this location's foodservice. Summarize how receiving this grant will benefit the students who participate in the school nutrition programs.

RECIPIENT ASSURANCES

By receiving funds under this grant award, I hereby agree, as grantee, to comply with the following terms and conditions:

1. Programs and projects funded in total or in part through this grant shall operate in compliance with State and federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to the 1964 Civil Rights Act and amendments, the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 34, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Vendors, subgrantees, and/or consultants; including officers and employees shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act at all times (20 U.S.C. §1232g).
2. Grantee shall assure that its facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities as required by the ADA and applicable regulations. The grantee shall not discriminate against individuals with disabilities in the provision of its services and programs unless to do so would be an undue burden or result in fundamental alteration in the program as those terms are used in the ADA and its implementing regulation. The State reserves the right to inspect the grantee's facilities at any time to determine if the grantee is in compliance with ADA. The grantee shall bear sole responsibility for assuring that its programs conforms for the section 501c. of the ADA (42 USC 12201) as a bona fide benefit plan. The grantee shall indemnify and hold the State harmless in any administrative proceeding or action brought pursuant to the ADA for all damages, attorneys' fees, litigation expenses and costs, if such action or proceeding arises from the acts of grantee, grantee's employees, agents or subgrantees.
3. By accepting federal funds, the recipients certify that they have complied with Federal Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension set forth in 2 CFR §180, and that, a signed Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion form has been filed with Maryland State Department of Education Project Monitor.
4. Grantee shall establish and maintain fiscal control, fund accounting procedures by fund, as set forth in 2 CFR §200 and in applicable statute and regulation. By accepting federal funds, the recipient agrees that the amount of the grant award is contingent upon the receipt of federal funds. Grantee shall retain all records of its financial transactions and accounts relating to this grant for a period of five years, or longer if required by federal regulation. Such records shall be made available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of MSDE.
5. Entities expending federal funds of \$750,000 or more in a single fiscal year, must have an annual financial and compliance audit in accordance with 2 CFR Subpart F 200.500 et. seq.
6. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) may, as it deems necessary, supervise, evaluate and provide guidance and direction to grantee in the conduct of activities performed under this grant. However, MSDE's failure to supervise, evaluate or provide guidance and direction shall not relieve grantee of any liability for failure to comply with the terms of the grant award.
7. Grantee shall adhere to MSDE reporting requirements, including the submission of all required reports. Failure to submit complete, accurate, and timely progress and final reports may result in the withholding of subsequent grant payments until such time as the reports are filed.
8. Grantee must receive prior written approval from the MSDE Program Monitor before implementing any programmatic changes with respect to the purposes for which the grant was awarded. Unless a division implements a stricter policy, grantee must receive prior written approval from the MSDE Program Monitor for any budgetary realignment of \$1,000 or 15% of total object, program or category of expenditure, whichever is greater. Grantee must support the request with the reason for the requested change. Budget realignments must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the end of the grant period.
9. Requests for grant extension, when allowed, must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the end of the grant period.
10. Grantee shall insure that programs and projects that offer web-based or technology based instructional products or programs which are funded in total or in part through this grant will operate in compliance with Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended and Section 7 -910 of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.
11. Grantee shall repay any funds that have been determined through the federal or State audit process to have been misspent, misapplied, or otherwise not properly accounted for, and further agrees to pay any collection fees that may subsequently be imposed by the federal and/or State government. The repayment may be made by an offset to funds that are otherwise due the grantee.

I further certify that all of the facts, figures and representations made with respect to the grant application and grant award, including exhibits and attachments, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Superintendent of Schools/Head of Grantee
Agency

Date

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 Implementing regulations “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 “Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension”
- 2 CFR Part 418 USDA “New Restrictions on Lobbying”
- 2 CFR Part 421: USDA “Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)”
- 41 USC Section 22 “Interest of Member of Congress”
- Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009, Public Law 110-417
- Sections 745 and 746 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31)
- “The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), dated September 26, 2006”
- The General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), Section 427

COST PRINCIPLES

- 2 CFR, Part 200: Subpart E, Cost Principles

USDA REGULATIONS

- 7 CFR Part 15: “Nondiscrimination”
- 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).

ASSURANCE OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d-et seq.), USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15, Nondiscrimination, and Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 42, Nondiscrimination; Equal Employment Opportunity: Policies And Procedures
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) and USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15a, Education Programs or Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) and USDA regulations at 7 CFR Part 15a, Education Programs or Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance, and Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 41, Implementation of Executive Order 12250, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap In Federally Assisted Programs
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) The Grantee assures that it will immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate the requirements in these laws, regulations, and directives. The Grantee gives this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining the funds provided under this agreement.
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment (Title I), state & local government services (Title II), places of public accommodation and commercial facilities (Title III). (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213)

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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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Equity Assurance and Compliance Officer, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent for Finance and Administration, Maryland State Department of Education, 200 W. Baltimore Street - 6th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595 410-767-0426 - voice, 410-767-0431 - fax, 410-333-6442 - TTY/TDD

**Maryland State Department of Education
Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs
Capital Equipment List***

Items not requiring pre-approval to purchase using Child Nutrition Program funds

If desired equipment is not listed, complete the attached Equipment and Other Capital Expenditures Approval Request

Computers/Hardware & Software

Cash Registers/Point-of-Sale Equipment
Software/programs for management (i.e. Inventory, Meal Counts, Application Approval)

Dining Room

Tables
Chairs

Dishwashers, Sinks and Supplies

Under Counter Dishwashers
Conveyor Dishwashers
Door Type Dishwashers
Waste Disposal (i.e. Pulpers, Compactors)
Sinks
Water Heater Boosters
Dish Tables

Food Preparation Equipment

Griddles
Hot Plates
Microwaves
Food Slicers
Toasters
Induction Cookers
Food Processors
Food Blenders
Food Cutters
Hot Water Dispensers
Refrigerated Prep Tables
Countertop Mixers
Floor Mixers
Food Processors
Vertical Cutter Mixers
Planetary Mixers
Dough Dividers/Bun Cutters
Dough Rollers/Sheeters
Fryers
Work Tables
Holding and Proofing Cabinets
Conveyor Systems
Bag/Fill/Seal Systems

Food Warmers

Countertop Food Warmers
Drawer Warmers
Soup Kettles
Drop-In Food Warmers

Ranges and Ovens

Cooktops and Ranges
Convection Ovens
Cook and Hold Ovens
Deck Ovens
Conveyor Ovens
Reel Ovens
Combi Ovens
Broilers
Tilting Skillets
Tilting Kettles
Kitchen Exhaust Systems
Retractable Exhaust Systems
Fire Suppression Systems

Refrigeration Equipment

Drop in Refrigerators
Reach-in Refrigerators & Freezers
Walk-In Refrigerators & Freezers
Under Counter Refrigerators & Freezers
Worktop Refrigerators & Freezers
Refrigerated Buffet Tables
Refrigerated Salad Bars
Chest Freezers
Sandwich/Salad Prep Tables
Milk Coolers
Blast Chillers
Ice Machines
Tumble Coolers

Service Equipment

Service Line Tables
Kiosks
Sneeze Guards

Steam Equipment

Steam Tables
Steam Table Serving Shelves
Steamers
Steam Jacketed Kettles
Rethermalization Systems

Storage

Racks
Shelving

Temperature Monitoring

Data Loggers
Temperature Alarm Systems

Transportation

Cars, trucks, vans
Forklifts

*Equipment means an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year AND an acquisition cost which exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the agency for financial statement purposes, or \$5000.

Equipment and Other Capital Expenditures Approval Request

Capital expenditures are:

- Equipment that has a useful life of a year or longer OR
- Repairs or modifications that materially increase the value or useful life of such equipment AND
- Expected purchase or repair cost equals or exceeds the Federal threshold of \$5000 or a lower threshold set by local agency requirements.

When equipment to be purchased is **NOT** found on the MSDE Capital Equipment List, complete and submit this form prior to making the expenditure.

Agency name: _____ Agency number: _____

Name of person completing form: _____ Date of request: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

Agency's local capitalization threshold (if less than \$5000):

N/A

Item to be purchased or repaired	Expected cost	Site(s)	Brief description of intended use in Child Nutrition Program(s)

Reminder: cost estimates and purchases must comply with federal procurement requirements.

MSDE Approval:

Approved

Not approved; reason:

MSDE Signature: _____

August 2014