

The USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is funded through the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 and administrated by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education. Funding is allocated yearly to state agencies to “provide fresh fruits and vegetables at no charge to students at times other than at meal service periods through the school food authority”.

Elementary schools (per MEOF) meeting the program criteria below may apply yearly for up to \$50.00 - \$75.00 per student:

- 50% or more of enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals
- Development of partnerships with one or more entities that provide non-federal resources (including entities representing the fruit and vegetable industry) for the acquisition, handling, promotion, or distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables
- Integration of the program with other efforts that promote sound health and nutrition, reduce overweight and obesity, or promote physical activity

Applications for 2015-2016 school year were due and submitted on June 5, 2015 for 14 elementary schools with the greatest level of need, 90% or more free/reduced eligible, and supportive integration programming.

All 14 elementary schools were awarded \$54.00 per student: Belmont Community, Burncoat Street Prep, Canterbury Street, Chandler Elementary, Chandler Magnet, City View, Columbus Park, Elm Park, Goddard, Grafton Street, Lincoln Street, Union Hill, Vernon Hill, and Woodland Academy.

Elementary schools meeting for both criteria and supportive program compliance requirements are included in the yearly application.