



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



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Colt Gill

Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction

Bill #: 2579

House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use

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Economic Impact Data on the Oregon Farm to School Grant

Hello Chair Clem, members of the Committee, my name is Rick Sherman and I am the Farm to School and School Garden Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Education. I'd like to give you a very quick rundown of some economic impact data for the Oregon Farm to School Grant.

- For the current biennium, we are on track to spend all of our funds for the Oregon Farm to School Procurement and Education grants.
- Currently we have 131 Procurement Grantees and 22 Education Grantees
- In the Procurement Grant, the 131 grantees serve Oregon grown or processed foods at school districts that represent 90% of all of Oregon school lunches served.
- During the last school year (2017/18) Oregon School districts were reimbursed for 332 TONS of fresh Oregon-grown produce to serve to Oregon school children with grant funds.
- During the same school year, procurement grantees estimated that they spent over \$14 million dollars on Oregon grown or processed food.
- At least 477 Oregon distributors, producers, ranchers, farmers and gardens delivered product to Oregon schools during the past three school years.
- From 2016 to 2018, schools increased the amount of Oregon grown purchases by 77 percent with grant funds.
- From 2016 to 2018, schools increased the amount of Oregon grown AND processed food purchases by 50 percent with grant funds.
- School districts continue to provide new and stable markets for Oregon farmers and food businesses.
- Oregon's smaller and larger businesses alike, benefit from the Farm to School Program, especially produce farmers and processors.

I've included a breakdown of the above data to show different categories where grant funds have made their way into Oregon schools.

Rick Sherman

Farm To School / School Garden Coordinator
Oregon Core Partner, [Oregon Farm to School Network](#)
Child Nutrition Programs
Office of Student Services
Oregon Department of Education
255 Capital St. NE, Salem OR 97310
☎ (503) 947-5863 📠 Fax: (503) 378-5156
Rick.Sherman@state.or.us



Visit ODE's Farm to School website:
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**Economic Benefit of Oregon's Farm to School
Procurement Grant Program
February 2019**

1. With the state investment of \$1.6 million last school year (SY 2017-18), schools boosted Oregon's agricultural economy by purchasing \$14 million worth of Oregon-grown and -processed foods.

Breakdown of products reimbursed in school year 2017-18 with grant funds:

Oregon Farm to School Grant Funds (SY 2017-18)		
Oregon Products	Grant funds claimed	% of Grant Funds
Other (tortillas, chips, seasoning, sauces etc.)	\$552,351	35.8%
Unprocessed fruits and vegetables	\$548,866 (332 tons of produce)	35.6%
Beans	\$108,332	7.0%
Beef	\$105,780	6.9%
Processed fruits/vegetables	\$86,409	5.6%
Dairy	\$77,475	5.0%
Grains	\$32,372	2.1%
Bakery	\$13,982	0.9%
Pork	\$9,265	0.6%
Poultry	\$3,229	0.2%
Eggs	\$1,530	0.1%
Fish/Seafood	\$1,068	0.1%
Other meats	\$235	0.0%
Total	\$1,540,900	100%

2. **Oregon Foods Purchased by Oregon Schools (total spending with grant funds and other funds)**
 - (SY 16-17) **\$13,733,668** total spending on Oregon foods
 - (SY 17-18) **\$14,438,606** total spending on Oregon foods

3. **477 Oregon distributors, producers, ranchers, farmers and gardens delivered product to Oregon schools between SY 15-16 and SY 17–18** (data source: grant reimbursement claims) including:
 - 9 bakeries
 - 33 meat (beef/pork/poultry) ranchers/distributors
 - 14 dairies
 - 2 egg farms
 - 7 fishermen/seafood processors
 - 7 grain mills/grain growers
 - 214 unprocessed fruits/veggie purveyors or farms
 - 3 processed fruit/veggie distributors or purveyors
 - 188 other foods/processors or distributors that deliver multiple categories of food lines

4. **Change in purchases of Oregon-grown and -processed foods** (data source: grant reimbursement claims)

From 2016 to 2018, schools increased the amount of Oregon grown purchases by 77 percent (with grant funds).

- (SY 16 – 17) Oregon grown product accounted for 27% of state funded purchases
- (SY 17 – 18) Oregon grown product accounted for 48% of state funded purchases

From 2016 to 2018, schools increased the amount of Oregon grown AND processed purchases by 50 percent (with grant funds)

- (SY 16 – 17) Oregon grown AND processed product accounted for 12% of state funded purchases
- (SY 17 – 18) Oregon grown AND processed product accounted for 18% of state funded purchases

Schools continue to provide new and stable markets for Oregon farmers and food businesses.

Oregon’s smaller and larger businesses alike, benefit from the Farm to School Program, especially produce farmers and processors.

5. **At least 477 businesses are supported by Oregon Farm to School Procurement Grant funds. *The list of businesses can be provided upon request.***