



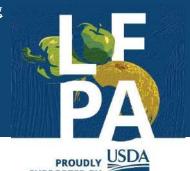
Local Food Purchase Assistance

Commodity Procurement Program

USDA-AMS is establishing cooperative agreements with states, territories, and federally recognized tribal governments for the purpose of supporting local, regional, and underserved farmers and producers through food purchases with the LFPA funds. These cooperative agreements will allow recipients to procure local and domestic foods that are unique to their geographic area and meets the needs of their population. Underserved communities will be the priority for distribution of the foods purchased through the program.

- The LFPA program allows applicants the flexibility to design innovative procurement programs that strengthen their local and regional food systems by purchasing foods that are healthy, nutritious, and unique to their geographic area within their state or territory.
- Food purchases must include both fresh and minimally processed foods. Any food or beverage product that meets the definition for domestic and local are permissible, including seafood. Local is defined as within the state or territory or within 400 miles of the distribution site.
- Funds will help increase the consumption of local food and build and expand economic opportunity for local and underserved producers, farmers and ranchers.
- These cooperative agreements will allow applicants to tailor food distribution to the needs of the population and feeding programs, including food banks, and organizations that serve underserved communities.
- The agreement holders will be required to provide quarterly performance and financial reports along with annual and final reports. Agreements may be up to two years in length.

For additional information regarding the CNMI's LFPA, visit: www.feedingmarianas.org or contact Kioshi Cody at kcody@commerce.gov.mp



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