

# Fresh Produce Pilot for Schools in Michigan and Florida



2011

**Michigan & Florida** set aside a discretionary portion of their food entitlement money for the pilot of fresh produce.

The **DOD Fresh** program continues alongside.

**Approved Vendors** are growers, produce wholesalers, or distributors that meet the requirements of the:

- Domestic Origin Program;
- Good Agricultural practices; are F&V Programs Approved; and
- meet Food Defense Requirements.

**Key Stakeholder Action: Recruit & assist local vendors for USDA contract status**

**AMS releases an RFP** to participating vendors for 6 major product groups: lettuce, apples, grapes, oranges, carrots & blueberries.

- Local preference is not required in the national RFP, but may be part of individual school contract bids.
- Participating vendors will include origin pricing info., product specifications & other evaluation criteria.

**AMS awards indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity contracts** to successful vendors, including minimum & maximum dollar value for the contract. Award information is posted online.

**Successful Vendors:**

- Supply lettuce, apples, grapes, oranges, carrots, or blueberries directly to MI & FL schools based on contracts with states/schools; or
- Supply through distributors/wholesalers.



**MI & FL schools** will contract with approved vendors for desired produce & receive it from growers, distributors, or wholesalers. Schools may choose to include **local preference** in their contracts.

**Key Stakeholder Action: Define local preferences for contract bids by USDA-approved vendors**

**Vendors that obtain a contract** with both the schools and the USDA can participate in the USDA Fresh Produce Pilot and must meet requirements in both contracts, including any local preferences in the school contracts.

**Vendors submit invoice to USDA, AMS** for the produce cost. AMS pays contracted produce price, per invoice, including proof of delivery to school.

**Vendors distribution & handling costs** are handled through their contract with the schools, and are invoiced to the schools.