Program Year 2024

Directions and description of the State of Maine Local Foods Reimbursement. Submission for reimbursement must meet the Maine Legislation Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§12. Listed below.

Sponsors are to complete the summary page with Legal Agent approval signature and email the <u>Summary Page and Invoices</u> to:<u>jodi.truman@maine.gov</u>

20-A §6602. SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS

12. Local Foods Fund. The Local Foods Fund is established within the department. The fund is authorized to receive revenue from public and private sources. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. The fund must be used to match \$1 for every \$3 a school administrative unit pays for produce, value-added dairy, protein or minimally processed foods purchased directly from a farmer, farmers' cooperative, local food hub, local food processor or food service distributor in the State, to a maximum state contribution of \$5,000 per school administrative unit in fiscal year 2021-22 and subsequent years or \$5,500 per school administrative unit if funding is received and the school administrative unit sends a food service employee to local foods training administered by the department under subsection 13. All foods purchased using the fund must be grown or produced in the State, with the exception of processed and value-added food products produced in the State, which must meet standards set by the department. The department shall create standards for allowable processed and value-added food products produced in the State and provide guidance to school administrative units regarding which of those products are allowable for reimbursement under this subsection and subsection 12-A. At the end of the fiscal year, the school administrative unit may provide the department with receipts documenting purchases pursuant to this subsection during that year. Reimbursement or partial reimbursement to school administrative units may only be made up to the amount available in the fund. Failure to reimburse does not constitute an obligation on behalf of the State to a school administrative unit. The department shall apply for federal grant funding to provide state contributions in excess of \$5,000 per school administrative unit in fiscal year 2021-22 and subsequent years pursuant to this subsection.

Summary Page Maine Local Foods

Claim Month:_____

Sponsor:_____

Date:	Supplier Name	Farm Name	Items	*Approved	Amount \$
Total Sum of Receipts					\$
Total amount of reimbursement (\$1.00 for every \$3.00 purchased)					\$

* Approved Process of value-added foods

Amount of Reimbursement Requested: \$_____

Contact Name: _____

Legal Agent: _____ Date: _____

I hereby submit receipts for Maine produce purchased directly from farmer or farmers' cooperative, local food hub, local food processor or food service distributor in the State and used in the School Food Service Program. The produce was not offered in the Federal Fresh Fruit Vegetable Program.