



# Local Food Purchase Assistance Program (LFPA)

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# Topics

- **Roles and responsibilities**
- **Claims for payments - Advances and Reimbursements**
- **Contracting**
- **Extensions**
- **Allowable and unallowable foods for LFPA Plus**
- **LFPA status update**
- **Culturally Important Foods**



# Roles of the Government in a Cooperative Agreement

- **Managing and administering the Federal award in a manner so as to ensure that Federal funding is expended and associated programs are implemented in full accordance with federal laws and program requirements.**
- **Measuring the recipient's performance to show achievement of program goals and objectives, share lessons learned, improve program outcomes, and foster adoption of promising practices.**
- **Providing recipients with clear performance goals, indicators, targets, and baseline data.**
- **Specifying any requirements of award recipients' participation in a federally funded evaluation, and any evaluation activities required to be conducted by the Federal award.**

# **Role of the State/Territory or Tribe**

- **Administer the agreement in a manner that is in compliance with state and federal regulations and the requirements of the program**
- **Measure program performance and provide required performance and financial reports to USDA**
- **Manage funds appropriately and perform required audits**
- **Make adjustments to plan as needed to ensure program goals are met.**



# Claims for payment – Reimbursements and Advances

- **Recipients (states/tribes) may choose to be compensated either through advance payments or reimbursements. They are limited to one request/mo.**
- **Advance payments are limited to 80 percent of the funds allocated for the funding source.**
- **The funds are requested through EzFedGrants – the Program Manager and Program Assistant review and approve. The review process may take up to a week. Upon approval of the claim, it takes 2-3 days to be deposited in the recipient's financial institution.**



# Advance Payments

- **Recipients must have written financial procedures in place to account for the funds in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(b)(6)**
- **Under 2 C.F.R. § 200.305, payment of funds to recipients are governed by 31 C.F.R. § 205.33**
  - The timing and amount of funds transfers must be as close as is administratively feasible to a recipient's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.
- **Additionally, a justification must be submitted describing the need for advance payments**

# **Contracts involving advance payments – best practices**

**States have reported a few strategies that have helped them administer this type of contracts to ensure delivery once funds are provided.**

- Allow for substitution of product if the farmer is not able to provide the contracted commodity.**
- Allow only a designated percentage of the total being purchased to be forward contracted. We heard 35 percent and 50 percent**
- Contract with organizations such as non-profits that have many growers they are working with thus reducing risk of crop failure that may occur with one grower**
- Conduct review of potential vendor to ensure they have the capability and capacity to perform. This may include a financial review and a review of history of performance.**



# Extensions of Agreements

- **Those agreements that were part of round 1 LFPA (ARPA funding) that requested an amendment to obtain LFPA Plus funding were given an option to extend their agreement for 1 year.**
- **New LFPA Plus agreements were set up for up to two years.**
- **Local Food for Schools (LFS) were originally 18 months. In many cases they have been granted no cost extensions for an additional year.**



# **LFPA Plus (CCC Funds)**

## **Allowable foods**

**For LFPA Plus the funds must all be used for the purchase of foods. There are no funds available for administrative and other costs. The food purchased must be unprocessed or minimally processed.**

- **What foods are considered “unprocessed or minimally processed”? (LFS FAQ #5)**
  - Examples of allowable food products include fruits and vegetables (including 100% juices); grain products such as pastas and rice; meats (whole, pieces, or food items such as ground meats); meat alternates such as beans or legumes, and fluid milk and other dairy foods such as cheese and yogurt. Foods in a wide variety of minimal processing states (e.g., whole, cut, pureed, etc.) and/or forms (e.g., fresh, frozen, canned, dried, etc.) are also allowable.
  - Foods that are generally understood to be significantly processed or prepared are unallowable. Examples of unallowable products would include baked goods such as breads, muffins, or crackers; prepackaged sandwiches or meals; other prepared and/or pre-cooked items that come ready-to-eat or that require no further preparation beyond heating (eg. chicken nuggets, fish sticks, pre-made pizzas, etc).



# LFPA Purchases

- LFPA has spent a total of **\$117,892,039**
  - **\$80,093,343** from Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Producers

## Unique Producers

- 5,710

## Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Producers

- 3,545

## Number of Purchases

- 44,057





# LFPA Purchases

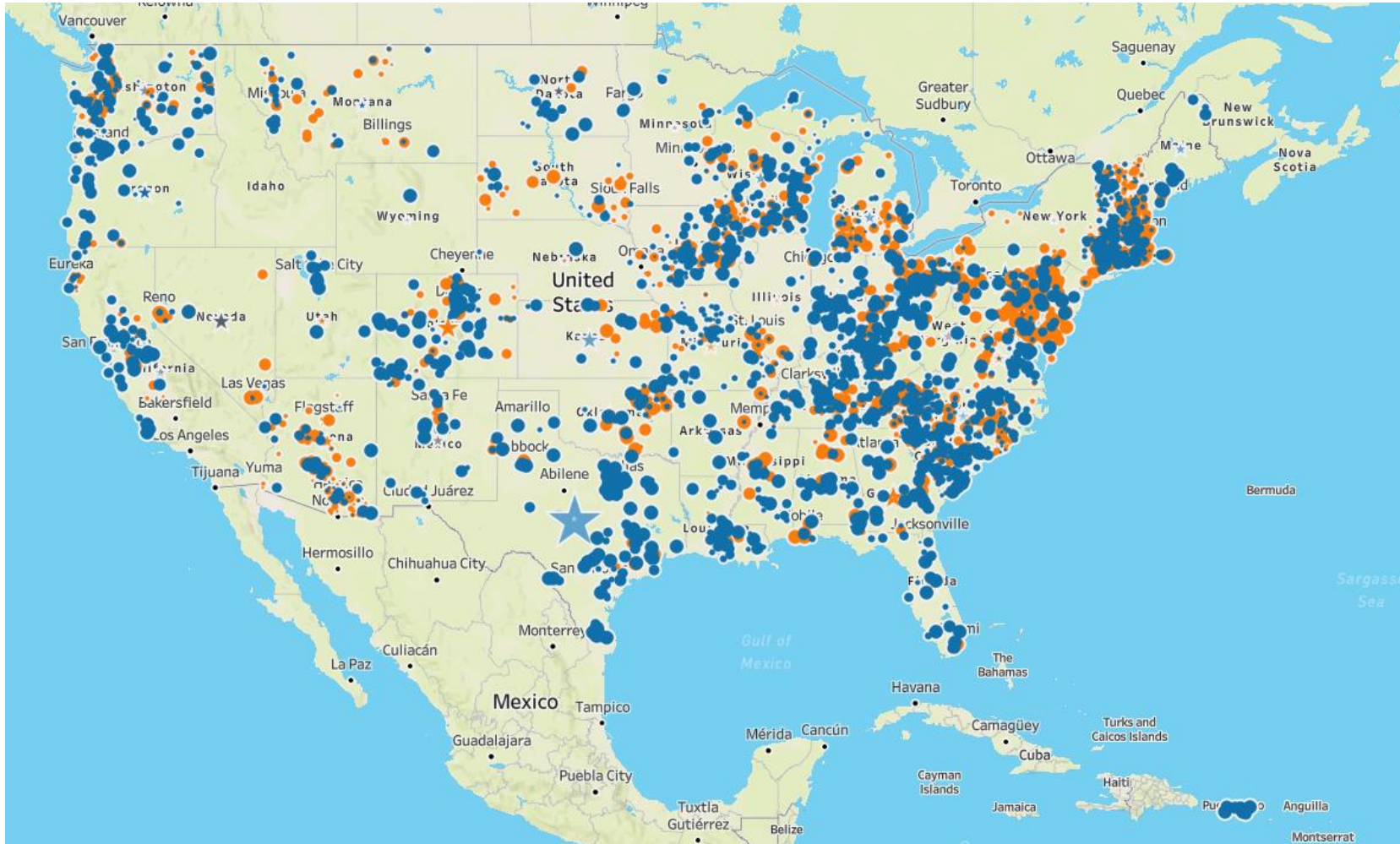
Product Type	Total Amount of Purchases	Percentage
Beverages	\$91,642	
Bread & Grains	\$3,674,424	
Dairy & Milk	\$5,714,476	5%
Eggs	\$5,124,797	4%
Fish & Seafood	\$2,994,901	
Meat & Poultry	\$28,259,819	24%
Nuts, Seeds, & Legumes	\$4,071,134	3%
Prepared Meals & Entrees	\$1,674,412	
Produce	\$64,224,557	54%
Snacks & Condiments	\$2,061,875	





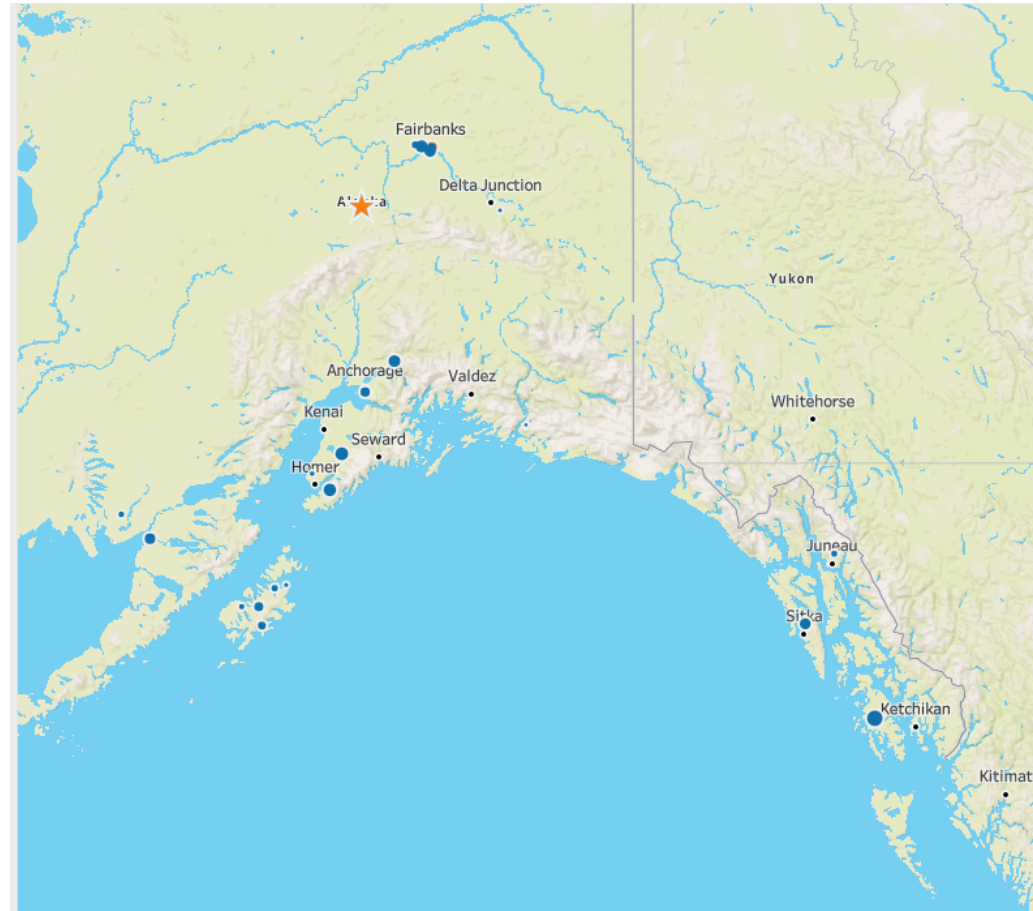


# LFPA Purchases around the Country





# LFPA Purchases around the Country (Alaska )



# LFPA Distributions

- LFPA has distributed a total of **\$97,546,735** in food.
  - **\$93,621,164** to Underserved Communities

## Unique Locations

- 6,826

## Number of Distributions

- 71,188



## **Culturally appropriate foods and foods that have special significance in Tribal communities:**

**Some examples of foods that Tribal Communities have purchased or plan to purchase include:**

### **Proteins:**

- **Salmon, Bison, Roe on Kelp, Venison meat, Beef, Seal meat, Elk meat, shrimp, crabs, scallops, herring eggs**

### **Vegetables and Fruits:**

- **Corn, Eggplant, Chokeberries, Bear root, Tea, June berries, Ugu(fluted pumpkin) , bitter leave, water leaves.**







# Insights from Tribal Communities

- “In early June, AFMA procured 960 pounds of Bristol Bay salmon. The fish was sourced from a small processor who hires local families and quality-focused fishers. The work of local families supporting other local families is the foundation of our resilient local food system. The salmon was delivered to the Food Bank of Alaska for distribution. FBA determined the delivery of fish is essential for communities who are facing ongoing crashed salmon runs. –State of Alaska
- “... placed a special emphasis on procuring traditional foods, including smoked salmon and other seafood, bison, and other traditional foods.” – Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
- “The 2023 Roe on Kelp season supported Tlingit & Haida tribal citizens in several ways from the purchase of harvest from tribal citizen vessel owners, employment of tribal citizens within the program and temporary hires to assist with the packaging and storing of harvest, to the distribution of over 17,000 pounds of roe on kelp to tribal citizen households.” – Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska



## Insights from States

- “Kalama Fisheries was able to extend their extra catch to their tribal community and elders knowing that they didn’t have to potentially save it for another market channel. As one of the main tribal fishers for his tribe Albert Kalama, makes it a point to provide fish for those elders and single mothers who can’t get down to the river, or who have lost someone in their family who was the provider of Salmon. Salmon is a first food, a life force that keeps them connected to a healthy source of protein and to their culture and way of life.”

“A community partner organization is supporting the growth of an immigrant and refugee community market, providing access to cultural products. They are partnering with another organization that does great community engagement to bring the communities to the market. The market is set up for current farmers looking to continue to grow their business, as well as supporting new farmers in starting a farm/market business. These funds allow trust and familiarity to foster between community members and farmers, as well as farmer to farmer.”

–State of Oregon



## Insights from States

- “ They were thrilled to be able to get fresh food out to so many immigrant families and our Hope House residents, especially the African greens and foods that they know and love. We look forward to continuing this fabulous partnership next season! Many, many thanks! These veggie bags make a tremendous difference for so many.”

Early Summer of 2024, Partner Cultivating Community will be producing African eggplants.

– State of Maine, Hope Acts in Portland, ME

- “Various local partners were able to coordinate the largest halal chicken processing project in the state of Vermont. VAAFMM staff were able to attend the distribution that also included vegetables and dried African corn. The staff at the event said that LFPA funds supported the new partnership between a processor, underserved farmer, and the Vermont Islamic Society, among others.”. – State of Vermont