

# NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Application

Division of Food and Nutrition



Nevada  
Department  
of Agriculture

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## NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Scoring Criteria

Scoring will be based on the following criteria, a maximum score of 85 points.

### FRL% greater than 50% (Up to 10 Points)

- 10 points for applicants that have an FRL% greater than 50%
- 8 points for applicants that have an FRL 40% - 49%
- 6 Points for applicants that have an FRL 30% - 39%
- 4 points for applicants that have an FRL 20% - 29%
- 0 points for applicants that have an FRL below 20%

### Points for Impact: (Up to 10 points)

- 10 points for applicants that identify the equipment will impact at least 500 students.
- 8 points for applicants that identify the equipment will impact at least 499-250 students.
- 6 points for applicants that identify the equipment will impact less than 249 students.

### Impact on School Meal Programs: (Up to 15 points)

- 1 point for each applicable criteria indicated in the application.

### Points for not receiving equipment grant funds previously: (Up to 5 points)

- 5 points for applicants that did not previously receive equipment grant funding (SY 2019-2023).
- 3 points for applicants that did previously receive equipment grant funding (SY 2021-2022).
- 2 points for applicants that did previously receive equipment grant funding (SY 2022-2023).
- 0 points for applicants that did previously receive equipment grant funding (SY 2023-2024).

### Points for previous grant participation: (Up to 5 points)

- 5 points for applicants that did not previously participate in the equipment grant.
- 5 points for applicants that did previously participate in the equipment grant. All paperwork was signed and submitted in a timely manner.
- 3 points for applicants that did previously participate in the equipment grant. All paperwork signed and submitted with a few reminders.
- 2 points for applicants that did previously participate in the equipment grant. All paperwork signed and submitted after deadlines or with significant difficulty.
- 0 points for applicants that did previously participate in the equipment grant, but did not spend funds in a timely manner.

**Describe how the equipment item(s) will meet the Federal grant funding requirements of being necessary, reasonable, and allocable for school meals. (Such as the school is in an underserved area; limited access to other resources/funding to purchase equipment; current equipment is outdated, non-functioning, or non-existent; etc.) (10 points possible)**

3 points for necessity: The application clearly demonstrates that the requested equipment is essential for improving the quality and efficiency of school meal programs. Specific needs identified, such as serving an underserved area or addressing limitations in current equipment or resources.

3 points for reasonability: The applicant provides well-reasoned justification for why the equipment is a reasonable expense in relation to the goals of the school meal program.

4 points for allocability: The requested equipment directly relates to the improvement of the school meal program. Provides a thorough explanation of the challenges the school faces such as being in an underserved area, having limited access to funding, or needing to replace old or non-functioning equipment. The more detailed and compelling the explanation, the higher the score.

**Describe the SFA's plan to purchase the requested equipment item(s) and how it will ensure funds are spent prior to the end of the grant period. Include the timeline of purchasing items, shipping timelines and installation. (10 points possible)**

5 points for a clear plan: Does the applicant provide a detailed and realistic plan for purchasing the requested equipment. This includes identifying specific steps and actions for procurement, such as obtaining quotes, finalizing orders, and selecting vendors.

3 points for providing a purchase timeline: Applicant includes a well-defined timeline for the purchase, shipping, and installation of the equipment.

2 points for demonstrating a commitment to meeting deadlines: Applicant demonstrates a clear commitment and capacity to meet the grant's spending deadlines, including submitting reimbursement requests and fully expending funds by May 31, 2026. This could include outlining steps taken to monitor progress and address any potential delays.

**Describe how the requested equipment items support strategies for adopting lunchroom changes to increase participation, such as more convenience and appeal to students. (10 points possible)**

5 points for demonstrating an increase in participation: Clear explanation on how the requested equipment will help increase participation in the school meal program(s). This could include enhancing convenience or making meals more appealing to students.

5 points for impact on student experience: Does the response describe how the equipment will improve the overall lunchroom experience for students, making it more attractive, efficient, or enjoyable? How the equipment will be used to improve the lunchroom environment and meal offerings. This could include aspects such as shorter waiting times or more options. For example, the equipment might make food preparation faster, improve food presentation, or allow for a more diverse menu, all of which could increase student interest and participation.

**Describe how these equipment purchases will enhance nutrition and meal quality, including improving the capacity to handle and process fresh fruits and vegetables. Additionally, explain how the equipment will improve food safety and increase the overall energy efficiency of food service operations. (10 points possible)**

4 points for enhancing meal quality: Clearly describes how the requested equipment will improve the overall nutrition and quality of meals served to students. This could include the ability to better prepare, store, or serve fresh fruits and vegetables.

2 points for ability to handle and process fresh produce: Explains how the equipment will specifically improve the handling, processing, and incorporation of fresh fruits and vegetables into the school meal program. This could include equipment designed to preserve freshness, enhance food preparation, or increase the variety of meals that can be offered.

2 points for improving food safety: Describes how the equipment will enhance food safety standards in the school meal program(s). This might include features that reduce the risk of contamination, improve sanitation, or ensure proper storage temperatures for perishable items.

2 points for improving energy efficiency: Addresses how the equipment will contribute to energy efficiency in food service operations. The applicant should explain how the equipment will help reduce energy consumption, streamline food service operations, and lower operational costs over time.