

2021 Food Service Equipment Grant Summary

Grant Overview: The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is receiving \$946,025 to distribute to schools through a competitive grant process. Any school participating in the NSLP may apply for a single piece of equipment, \$1,000 or greater in cost that meets one or more of the following priority areas:

- Opportunities to realize a meaningful impact on nutrition and quality of meals (such as serving more local foods or replacing fryers with combination steamer-ovens).
- Strategies for adopting lunchroom changes that provide convenience and appeal to the student (e.g., highlighting healthier choices, redesigning menus that target healthier entrees/options).
- Whether there are State and local funds available for equipment purchases.
- Age of food service equipment or lack of appropriate items.

Districts with multiple eligible buildings may only submit a total of two (2) applications, one for each building they wish to include for consideration/

Amount of Award: Award ceilings were not discussed in the grant guidelines. Equipment must cost at least \$1,000 and meet other grant specifications for equipment.

Due Date/Notification of Award: Applications are due by October 11, 2021. Notification date is January 2022.

Alternatives if not Awarded: Equipment will not be purchased unless it has been otherwise budgeted for.

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to work with the district's Food Service Management Company (FSMC) to develop a Food Service Equipment Grant application for eligible buildings in the Warren County School District with qualifying food service equipment needs.