



Buying and Selling Local for the **USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**

January 2017

The USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) provides federal funds to low-income elementary schools to serve fresh fruits and vegetables as snacks between meals during the school day. The goal of the FFVP is to improve children's overall diet and promote healthy eating habits.

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Schools in Hawai‘i can order any fresh fruit or vegetable for the FFVP. So why not multiply the benefit of the program by buying local? Contrary to popular belief, local fruits and vegetables are not always more expensive, and the benefits are numerous!

Buying Local: Why It Matters

- Produce that is harvested and eaten close to peak ripeness has better flavor and lots of nutrients, when handled properly.
- Connecting children to the source of their food can encourage healthier food choices that bolster learning and academic achievement.
- Buying local builds stronger local economies by keep more dollars circulating within communities.
- Supporting local farmers can enhance Hawai‘i’s food security by driving demand for local food and increases in local food production.

Know What’s In Season

Farmers throughout Hawai‘i grow a wide variety of fruits and vegetables during Hawai‘i’s twelve-month growing season. Local fruits include pineapple, papaya, banana, starfruit, dragon fruit, oranges, mango, liliko‘i, watermelon, rambutan, avocado, and more! Local vegetables include a variety of lettuces and tomatoes, as well as taro, sweet potato, breadfruit, kale, watercress, broccoli, okra, bell peppers, cucumbers, among many others. There’s no shortage of options, but seasonality matters. To find out which fruits and vegetables are in season, please review The Kohala Center’s FFVP Hawai‘i Local Produce Buying Guide online at koha.la/ffvpguide.

Request Local

Let your vendors know that buying local matters to your school. Ask what’s in season and request produce from local farmers. For a list of farms that are interested in supplying produce for the FFVP, see The Kohala Center’s FFVP Hawai‘i Local Produce Buying Guide online at koha.la/ffvpguide.



Hawai'i Produce Farmers: Your fresh produce is in demand! Schools throughout the Hawaiian Islands want to buy your produce for the FFVP and other child nutrition programs. Farmers can sell directly to private schools and charter schools, but generally have to go through a produce distributor to sell to regular DOE public schools. Contact schools to find out which distributors they use, and then contact those distributors to inquire about selling your produce for the FFVP and other child nutrition programs. For a list of produce distributors on each island, see The Kohala Center's FFVP Hawai'i Local Produce Buying Guide at koha.la/ffvpguide. For a list of charter schools in Hawai'i, see the State Public Charter School Commission's School Directory, available at chartercommission.hawaii.gov/charter-school-directory.

Each year elementary schools in Hawai'i apply to participate in the FFVP. For the 2016–17 school year, these elementary schools signed up for the program:

Hawai'i Island

School Name	Students	School Name	Students
Chiefess Kapi'olani Elementary	363	Keonepoko Elementary	599
Ha'aheo Elementary	184	Kohala Elementary	347
Hawai'i Academy of Arts & Science	249	Kona Pacific PCS	158
Hilo Union Elementary	436	Konawaena Elementary	571
Hōnaunau Elementary	171	Kua O Ka Lā PCS	77
Honoka'a Elementary	382	Laupāhoehoe Community PCS	186
Ka'ū High & Pāhala	133	Mountain View Elementary	540
Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo PCS	200	Nā'ālehu Elementary	406
Kaūmana Elementary	264	Pa'auilo Elementary & Intermediate	203
Kalaniana'ole Elementary	300	Volcano School of Arts & Science PCS	123
Ke Kula 'o 'Ehunuikaimalino	134	Waiākeawaena Elementary	720
Ke Kula 'o Nāwahiokalani'ōpu'u Lab PCS	306	Waimea Elementary	564
Kea'au Elementary	836	Waimea Middle PCCS (6th grade only)	76
Keaukaha Elementary	411		

Total Number of Schools: 27 | Total Number of Elementary Students: 8,939

O'ahu

School Name	Students	School Name	Students
'Aiea Elementary	376	Lā'ie Elementary	673
Ala Wai Elementary	424	Leihoku Elementary	961
August Ahrens Elementary	1,312	Linapuni Elementary	170
Benjamin Parker Elementary	341	Lincoln Elementary	336
Blanche Pope Elementary	236	Nānāikapono Elementary	848
Hau'ula Elementary	336	Nānākuli Elementary	469
Honowai Elementary	733	Palolo Elementary	294
Ka'a'awa Elementary	125	Pearl City Elementary	448
Ka'ala Elementary	422	Pearl Harbor Elementary	626
Kahalū'u Elementary	289	Pohakea Elementary	577
Kahuku Elementary	422	Puohala Elementary	296
Kailua Elementary	355	Pu'uhale Elementary	243
Kalihi Uka Elementary	270	Samuel K. Solomon Elementary	951
Kamaile Academy PCS	701	Waiāhole Elementary	99
Kapālama Elementary	579	Waiālua Elementary	585
Kauluwela Elementary	380	Wai'anae Elementary	609

Total Number of Schools: 32 | Total Number of Elementary Students: 15,486

Maui

School Name	Students	School Name	Students
Haiku Elementary	492	Pā'ia Elementary	369
Kahului Elementary	973	Princess Nāhi'ena'ena Elementary	745
Lihikai Elementary	918	Pukalani Elementary	410
Makawao Elementary	547	Wailuku Elementary	720

Total Number of Schools: 8 | Total Number of Elementary Students: 5,174

Kaua'i

School Name	Students	School Name	Students
'Ele'ele Elementary	471	King Kaumuali'i Elementary	589
Kapa'a Elementary	914	Kōloa Elementary	392
Kekaha Elementary	369		

Total Number of Schools: 5 | Total Number of Elementary Students: 2,735

Moloka'i

School Name	Students	School Name	Students
Kualapu'u Elementary New Century PCCS	333	Maunaloa Elementary	57

Total Number of Schools: 2 | Total Number of Elementary Students: 390

For the most current list of schools, contact Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs at 808-587-3600 or visit hcnp.hawaii.gov.

For more FFVP resources, visit:

- The Kohala Center's FFVP Hawai'i Local Produce Buying Guide, available at koha.la/ffvpguide.
- The Kohala Center's FFVP information page: kohalacenter.org/business/ffvp.
- Hawaii Child Nutrition Program's FFVP webpage: hcnp.hawaii.gov/overview/ffvp
- USDA FFVP Program webpage: fns.usda.gov/ffvp/fresh-fruit-and-vegetable-program





The Kohala Center is committed to improving child nutrition, enhancing K-12 education, and supporting local agriculture through our various farm to school programs, including:

Hawai'i Island School Garden Network, which supports the development of school gardens across the island through technical assistance and workshops.

Kū 'Āina Pā, our school garden teacher training program that supports teachers in creating and sustaining a garden-based ecoliteracy program and utilizes our Hawai'i School Garden Curriculum Map to connect core curriculum in the classroom with opportunities for extending learning in the real world, the basis of both Common Core and Next Generation Science.

FoodCorps Hawai'i, our partnership with FoodCorps to bring a team of AmeriCorps leaders to Hawai'i to connect kids to real food and help them grow up healthy.

Hawai'i Farm to School and School Garden Hui, a working group of school garden networks and farm to school advocates throughout Hawai'i.

Hawai'i State Farm to School Initiative, our partnership with the Hawai'i Lieutenant Governor, Hawaii State Department of Education, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and the State Procurement Office, which is piloting new farm to school recipes and procurement strategies for regular public schools in Hawai'i.

Hawai'i Island Charter School Food Hui, which is exploring administrative efficiencies and joint local food procurement for charter schools on Hawai'i Island.



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