

Austin ISD 20RFP100 Miscellaneous Food Items

We seek to purchase more food products that are manufactured within 500 miles of our warehouse, select food products that are Certified USDA Organic (or have similar third-party certifications), and select dairy products that have third-party certifications ensuring animal welfare.

This document provides some important updates and information about our continued commitment to GFPP and our expectations in this bid cycle. Here is a highlight of the key changes you may see in our bid:

- **All of our bid specifications will include a place to provide a price for both conventional and Certified USDA Organic (or similarly certified) products.**
 - *Be sure to place the bid price in the correct location. *******
 - *If you are able to supply a product that is Certified USDA Organic (or which has a similar third-party certification), please identify which certification(s) the product has in the associated Vendor Comments column.*
 - *Please also make sure you include documentation of this certification in your bid response: we will consider bids with these claims only if documentation is provided.*
- **We anticipate that the 2020-2021 school year will be the final year we seek bowl pack cereal products, and we plan to transition to bulk cereal products in the years that follow.**
 - *Estimated servings for bulk cereal products are likely to increase for school year 2021-2022 and beyond.*
 - *If you submit bid prices for bulk cereal products in this bid, please confirm in the Vendor Comments column that you are capable of providing these bulk cereal products at the estimated serving amounts beyond school year 2020-2021 (found in the 'Estimated Servings for SY21-22 Reference Table' in the Scope of Services).*

*******There will be two columns to enter price information- one for conventional options, and another for Certified USDA Organic (or similarly certified) options. You are not required to submit a price in each column, but you are encouraged to submit prices for all qualifying products that you are able to supply to Austin ISD according to the bid specifications. All bid prices will be considered.*

Further, there is a Vendor Comments column for each product in which you can add relevant information about your product and bid price. You are encouraged to include important product details, third-party certifications associated with the bid price(s) you provide, or information that shows how your product reflects Austin ISD's commitment to GFPP. **For example, if your product uses mostly ingredients from a GAP Certified farm or if your product is Certified USDA Organic, please include this information in the Vendor Comments section (and clarify the bid price to which your comments refer).**

Also, attached to this letter is a graphic outlining Austin ISD's values for the products we are prioritizing for purchase in this bid cycle. Priority will be given to products that advance these values, and any claims about third-party certifications must be supported with clear documentation that the certifications are current and valid.



AUSTIN

Independent School District

Nutrition & Food Services

Our mission is to support the achievement of all students by expanding food access, serving healthy, tasty meals, and providing learning opportunities about nutrition, cultural foodways and the food system.

AISD will give greater priority to products that advance the following goals:



Support the Local Economy

Producers or manufacturers who are family owned or cooperatively owned by workers.

AND

Are located within 500 miles of AISD.



Protect the Environment

Products with certifications that highlight sustainable environmental practices.

Examples include:

- AGA Grassfed (meat/dairy)
- Animal Welfare Approved (meat)
- Certified humane raised and handled (eggs)
- Pesticide free (grain)
- USDA Transitional Organic Standard (produce)
- Salmon Safe/LEAF (produce)
- Food Alliance Certified (grain)
- USDA Organic (except fish)
- Aligns with the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch Guide



Provide Humane Treatment of Animals

Products with certifications that demonstrate animals were treated humanely.

Examples include:

- Certified Humane
- USDA Organic
- Gap Step 1,2,3,4,5, or 5+
- Cage Free
- American Humane Certified Pasture Raised or Certified Humane Pasture Raised
- Certified Humane Free Range
- American Grassfed Association Producer
- Animal Welfare Approved
- Certified Grassfed by a Greener World



Ensure Fair Labor

Producers and manufacturers who provide a safe working environment and fair wages for their workers demonstrated by a documented social responsibility policy, a union contract with employees, or certification from Fair for Life, Fairtrade America (Fairtrade International FLO), or Fairtrade USA.



Serve Healthy Food

Products that promote health and wellness and meet the federal nutrition guidelines for school meals. Priority is also given to food products that are minimally processed and do not contain ingredients that are on the School Food Focus unwanted and watch ingredient lists.

Austin ISD is a participant in the Good Food Purchasing Program

Austin ISD is an equal opportunity provider.