

# 2025 Grow Ohio Grant Request for Applications



**Released:** April 1, 2025

**Grant Proposals Due:** May 28, 2025

*No late submissions will be accepted.*



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

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# Grant Summary

## BACKGROUND

The Grow Ohio Grant is funded through the 2022 Farm to School Formula Grant awarded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The objectives of the formula grant are:

- 1) To build and increase the capacity of participating institutions to procure and use local food in program meals and/or
- 2) To provide agricultural education opportunities for participating children.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Grow Ohio Grant program is to support the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors in providing innovative, local level activities that create agricultural education opportunities for participating children through farm to school projects such as outdoor or indoor school gardens, hydroponics, collaborations with local food producers, and food literacy activities.

The goals of the Grow Ohio Grant program include the following:

- Create opportunities for students to gain knowledge of potential careers in agriculture.
- Increase relationships between Ohio food producers and Child Nutrition program sponsors.
- Increase the amount of school-grown and raised foods served in Child Nutrition meal programs.

The Grow Ohio Grant advances the Department's workforce readiness priority ensuring students have the skills needed for success in college, careers, and life.

This is a competitive, reimbursement grant. The Department will provide grants of \$5,000-\$40,000 to child nutrition program sponsors for farm to school activities meeting the objectives below. Up to \$367,000 in total will be awarded.

## GRANT OBJECTIVES

Within the application, applicants must select at least one objective on which the grant project will focus. The objective areas include:

- Agriculture Career Exploration
- Local Producer Connections
- Edible Gardens

Examples of projects for each objective area include, but are not limited to:

*Agriculture Career Exploration*

- Field trips to local farms, ranches, or food processing facilities
- Development of courses or lessons focused on agriculture
- Supplies and equipment needed to start a student-led animal husbandry agribusiness

*Local Producer Connections*

- Inviting a local farmer to sample produce for students
- Development of promotional materials for local food meals, highlighting the producer(s) that supplied food
- Staff professional development training at a local farm

*Edible Gardens*

- Purchase of a hydroponic garden system to grow leafy greens for the school salad bar
- Lumber, soil, and seeds needed for a raised bed system to grow seasonable vegetables
- Supplies needed to process (peel, chop, cut) fresh produce from a school garden, child care, or summer feeding site.

## **PRIORITY AREAS**

Applicants will receive one additional bonus point for every priority area met. Priority areas will be scored as part of the quality review process and based on the following criteria:

- Proposed project promotes the purchase or on-site growing of at least one [Ohio Harvest of the Month](#) item for a taste test, meal, or snack.
- The proposed project incorporates a literacy activity aligned with the [Read Ohio](#) campaign.
- Applicants serve a high proportion (50% or greater) of children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Free and reduced numbers must be from Oct. 2024. NSLP data can be found on the [Department's webpage](#).

Applicants must provide supporting information in Section Ten of the online application to receive bonus points.

## FUNDING

The Department expects to award approximately \$367,000 for the 2025 Grow Ohio Grant Program. Schools, child care centers, after school at risk sponsors, family day care home sponsors, and summer meal sponsors may apply for funding through one of the following grant tracks:

- **Budding Blossom:** Available to schools administering the NSLP.
- **Super Seedling:** Available to child care centers, after school at risk sponsors, and summer meal sponsors administering the CACFP or SFSP.
- **Cultivate Curiosity:** Available to Family Day Care Home (FDCHs) sponsors administering the CACFP program.

Applicants cannot apply for more than one grant track, even if they administer multiple federal child nutrition programs. For example, a school serving preschool meals under the CACFP and kindergarten to fifth grade meals under the NSLP cannot apply for both the Super Seedling and Budding Blossom grant tracks.

Applicants must request a minimum of \$5,000 with a maximum of \$40,000 and include the Grant Budget Table in [Appendix C](#) detailing the anticipated costs of all grant-funded expenditures in the final grant submission.

A cash match is not required.

## PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance will begin from the date of award to June 30, 2026. An awarded sponsor may not need the entire period of performance to complete their awarded project and may close early. An awarded sponsor may be terminated from the grant at any time during the period of performance if the organization falls out of good standing or is terminated from the NSLP, CACFP, or SFSP. No extensions of the period of performance will be granted.

## TIMELINE & DEADLINES

Please note the program timeline below.

2025 Grow Ohio Grant Timeline	
Invitation to Submit Grant Applications	April 1, 2025
Grant Application Webinars	<a href="#">April 10, 2025, from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.</a> <a href="#">April 29, 2025, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.</a> <a href="#">May 14, 2025, from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.</a>
Grant Applications Due	11:59 p.m. ET May 28, 2025
Award Notification and Announcement	August 2025
Grant Term Begins	August 2025
Grant Term Ends	June 30, 2026



**Please note that the State of Ohio and Ohio Department of Education and Workforce policy prohibits the use of external AI tools during our meetings.**

*The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is committed to providing access and inclusion and reasonable accommodation in its services, activities, programs and employment opportunities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable laws. To request a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Katie Barnes, ADA coordinator, at [ADAaccommodation@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ADAaccommodation@education.ohio.gov) or (614) 387-2200 (voice) no later than three days before scheduled webinar.*

## **HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS**

All questions should be submitted to Farm to School Education Program Specialist Rebecca Naab at [Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov) or by phone at 614-981-2371. If submitting via email, please use “Sponsor IRN, Grow Ohio Grant” in the subject line. Please allow a 48-hour window for a response.

## **Eligibility**

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Eligible applicants include all National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors in good standing.

### **INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Ineligible applicants include the following:

- Applicants that received partial or complete Grow Ohio Grant funding in 2024
- Individuals
- Sponsors of the Special Milk Program only
- Community gardens or farms
- Farmers, ranchers, producers, or local food aggregators\*
- Private, for-profit, or non-profit organizations not sponsoring the NSLP, CACFP, or SFSP

### **COLLABORATION**

Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with farmers, nonprofits, and other community partners to strengthen their farm to school programming and application. Only eligible sponsors may submit the grant proposal.

## ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Grant funds may be used for any of the following purposes directly related to completion of an eligible project, including but not limited to:

- Indoor or outdoor edible garden supplies and equipment
- Programming that supports food literacy, nutrition education, or access to local foods for students
- Kitchen equipment used to process locally purchased or school-grown- food items
- Promotional materials, including printing costs
- Student field trip(s) to local farm/food producers
- Staff training and professional development
- Support for student internships or other career exploration opportunities in the food or agricultural sector
- No more than five percent of the grant funds may be used for food purchases, and the use must be delineated in the grant budget. Food purchases should be limited to educational purposes, such as: farm to school sample tables, taste tests, or promotional use.

## INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The following ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Food served as part of a reimbursable meal or sold as a competitive food and beverage or fundraiser
- Expenditures incurred before the grant period
- Staff wages or benefits
- Meals or snacks for training or meeting attendees
- Purchase of land, buildings, or additions of permanent building structures
- Personal staff transportation and/or travel expenses
- Bad debts, late payment fees
- Fundraising
- Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services

*All costs proposed in the budget must be allowable, reasonable, necessary, and allocable. Refer to [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E – Cost Principles](#) for a detailed description of all allowable and unallowable costs.*

*All funds must be obligated June 30, 2026, and liquidated by September 30, 2026, to be considered allowable.*

# How to Apply

## APPLICATION FORMAT

Applications are submitted via [Microsoft Forms](#). All sections must be completed before the application is submitted for review.

In addition to submitting the online application, applicants are required to include the Budget Template provided in [Appendix C](#). Please send the completed Budget Template to [Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov) with the subject line “IRN, Grow Ohio Grant, Budget Template” before the grant deadline.

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- All submitted applications will receive a technical review to ensure basic requirements have been met. The Technical Review rubric is found in [Appendix A](#) of this document.
- Applications passing the technical review will be scored using the Quality Review rubric in [Appendix B](#).
- Please use both rubrics as a reference while completing the application.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications are due by **11:59 p.m. ET on May 28, 2025**. No late applications will be accepted.

**Note:** The Department is not responsible for any technical or logistical problems that result in the Department not receiving the application on time. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the submission is received before the deadline. Once the application is submitted, applicants will receive a confirmation email from the Department within 48 hours.

# Application Review

## REVIEW PROCESS

### TECHNICAL REVIEW

Department staff will undergo a technical review of all submitted applications to ensure they are complete and meet all essential requirements. The Technical Review rubric is in [Appendix A](#).

Applications not meeting Technical Review requirements will be considered incomplete and removed from further consideration.

### QUALITY REVIEW

A review committee composed of Department staff will evaluate all eligible applications based on the criteria in the Quality Evaluation Rubric, found in [Appendix B](#). At least three reviewers will score each application.



Applications with point total discrepancies within a 10-point range or more by one or more reviewers will require a consensus meeting to discuss the rationale for scores. During the consensus meeting, calibration of the application scores and additional notes will be documented.

Final application scores will be totaled and averaged to determine the highest and lowest-scoring applications.

## **AWARD PROCESS**

Funding will be awarded to the top-scoring applicants in each grant track (Budding Blossom, Super Seedling, and Cultivate Curiosity) until all track funding amounts have been depleted. If funding cannot fully meet the grantee's request, the Department will contact the applicant to request permission to award partial funding. If an applicant declines partial funding, the next highest-scored applicant will be asked until the partial funding is exhausted.

## **APPLICANT NOTIFICATION**

All applicants will be notified of their selection status via email in August 2025. To accept grant funding, a Notice of Award must be signed by the Superintendent/Authorized Representative and the Treasurer/Fiscal Representative and returned to the Department within seven business days of receiving the award email.

If a sponsor declines the award, the next highest-scored applicant(s) within the grant track will be awarded funding.

## **Requirements of Grant Recipients**

### **RECORDKEEPING & FUND REIMBURSEMENT**

Awardees of this grant will be required to provide the following documentation upon expenditure and request for reimbursement:

- Invoices or purchase orders detailing item(s) purchased (including shipping & handling or any additional fees).

The Grow Ohio Grant is a reimbursement grant. Awardees will be reimbursed for approved purchases through their child nutrition program food service accounts with the Department. To receive reimbursement, the awardee will submit documentation to the Claims Reporting and Reimbursement System (CRRS). Documentation will be reviewed, and approved claims processed within 30 days of submission. The Department will not pre-pay any expenses. The individual responsible for submitting a claim in CRRS must be listed in the Child Nutrition program's application. Program purchases must be made from the organization's food service account. Journal entries should be used within the organization's accounting system to establish documentation of expenses.

Awardees shall retain grant files and supporting documentation for three (3) years plus the current fiscal year after final payment. Awardees must make these files available for review by the USDA or the Department upon request.

Funding not used during the period of performance will be forfeited. No extensions will be granted.

## **PROJECT REPORTING**

All awarded grantees must attend a virtual mid-point check-in hosted by the Office of Nutrition in February 2026 to discuss project progress, successes, and challenges and review data collection and final report requirements.

Upon completion of the grant period, awardees are required to complete a final report (template to be provided by the Department) detailing the project's outcomes, challenges, and recommendations for future farm to school related funding.

Final reports will be due to the Department no more than 60 days after completion of the grant project.

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Additional Considerations

### ACCOMMODATIONS

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is committed to providing access and inclusion and reasonable accommodation in its services, activities, programs and employment opportunities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable laws. To request a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Katie Barnes, ADA coordinator, at [ADAaccommodation@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ADAaccommodation@education.ohio.gov) or 614-387-7716 (voice).

### AWARD NOTICE

The Department is not obligated to make any award as a result of this RFA. Unless an applicant receives a signed award document with terms and conditions, any contact from Department staff should not be considered as a notice of an award.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE REVIEW PROCESS

The Department requires all panel reviewers to sign a conflict of interest and confidentiality form to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may affect the application review and evaluation process. Names of applicants submitting an application will be kept confidential, except to those involved in the review process, to the maximum extent possible. The identities of the reviewers will remain confidential throughout the entire process and the names of the reviewers will not be released to applicants.

### FUNDING SOURCE

This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

## Definitions

### **CHILD AND ADULT CARE PROGRAM (CACFP)**

A federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults enrolled for care at participating childcare centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers.

### **CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS (CNP)**

A suite of programs that offer food and nutrition assistance for children. These programs are administered at the federal level by the USDA.

### **CLAIMS REIMBURSEMENT AND REPORTING SYSTEM (CRRS)**

The online platform used by sponsors enrolled in USDA child nutrition programs through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to submit required data and apply for meal reimbursements.

### **EDIBLE GARDEN**

A garden space where children can learn about and participate in the growing and harvesting of fresh produce that can be used in child nutrition programs.

### **FARM TO SCHOOL**

While individual farm to school programs vary based on their unique vision, community, and geographic region, the state of Ohio defines farm to school programs as combining: (1) child nutrition programs buying Ohio-grown or produced foods for use in meal programs, (2) educational activities that connect classroom learning with cafeteria meals, and (3) hands-on food education opportunities in school gardens, on farms, in culinary classes, in settings that celebrate traditional foodways and cultivate food sovereignty, and through other experiential learning pathways.

### **GOOD STANDING**

Good standing means the status of a program operator that meets its program responsibilities, is current with its financial obligations, and, if applicable, has fully implemented all corrective actions within the required period.

### **LOCAL FOOD AGGREGATORS**

Organizations that gather and distribute local food items. Ex: Food hubs.

### **LOCAL FOOD**

Per the USDA, program sponsors may define what foods are considered “local” under their own parameters. Examples could include within a specific county, within a particular mile radius, or the state of Ohio.

## **NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (NSLP)**

A federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals served to children in school. The NSLP includes the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and Afterschool Snack Program.

## **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE (THE DEPARTMENT)**

The state of Ohio agency that administers all federal (USDA) child nutrition programs.

## **PROCUREMENT**

The act of sourcing items, including food. Schools may procure food from various sources but must follow all USDA procurement guidelines.

## **SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY**

Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program.

## **SPONSOR**

The managing organization that assumes financial and administrative responsibility for NSLP, CACFP, or SFSP program operations.

## **SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)**

A federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals served to children in eligible locations during the summer months when school is not in session.

## APPENDIX A – Technical Review Rubric

Applications must include the following components for them to be accepted and reviewed. Applications not including each required item listed below will not be scored on the quality elements.

Technical Review	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Technical Elements</b>			
Applicant administers a federal child nutrition program (NSLP, CACFP, or SFSP)	Yes	No	
Applicant meets at least one funding priority area.	Yes	No	
Applicant has applied for only one funding track.	Yes	No	
All application sections are fully complete.	Yes	No	
The school district is in good standing with the Department of Education and Workforce.	Yes	No	
<b>Additional Documentation</b>			
The completed Budget Template was submitted before the grant deadline.	Yes	No	

After completion of a technical review, reviewers recommend:

<input type="checkbox"/>	The application advances to the quality review.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The application does not advance to the quality review.

Reviewed By	
Review Date	
Reviewer Signature	

Reviewed By	
Review Date	
Reviewer Signature	



## Appendix B – Quality Review Rubric

All application questions will be scored using the following rating characteristics and scoring:

**Poorly Developed (1 point):** The response lacks crucial information needed to answer the application question.

**Adequately Developed (2 points):** The response meets most established criteria but requires additional information or explanation.

**Well-Developed (3 points):** The response meets the established criteria but requires additional information or explanation.

**Fully Developed (4 points):** The response provides a clear and realistic picture of how grant program activities will be achieved and how the program will operate smoothly under the organization.

**Strongly Developed (5 points):** The response significantly exceeds grant objectives and contains at least one enhancing feature that offers significant advantages.

Reviewer scores (1-5) for each question will be multiplied by the question's weight to determine the final score (e.g., the reviewer score is three times the weight of five to give a score of 15). Reviewers may award half points.

Evaluation Criteria	Weight	Max. Score
<b>Project Summary</b> Describe how the project will meet one or more of the following funding goals. Provide as much detail as possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create opportunities for students to gain knowledge of career potential in agriculture.</li><li>• Increase relationships between Ohio food producers and child nutrition program sponsors.</li><li>• Increase the amount of school-grown or raised foods served in USDA meal programs.</li></ul>	5	25
<b>Plan of Work</b> Describe in detail the key facilitators of the grant project who will be assigned to each task and provide a timeline for when grant activities will be carried out.	3	15
<b>Project Outcomes:</b> Describe the measurable outcomes that will be tracked. Include who will be responsible for monitoring and reporting these outcomes.	3	15
<b>Student Engagement</b> How will grant activities promote and engage children/students in farm to school?	3	15
<b>Community Engagement</b> How will families and community members be engaged in grant activities?	2	10

<b>Budget</b> Budget templates will be reviewed to determine whether items align with the project's needs and whether costs are allowable and reasonable.	2	10
<b>Sustainability</b> Describe how the project(s) will continue beyond the grant timeline. Include how farm to school initiatives will be integrated into the organization's operations in the future.	2	10
<b>Total Points Earned (no priority area bonus points)</b>	/100	
<b>Bonus Points:</b> One bonus point will be awarded for every priority area an applicant meets. This allows for a minimum of zero and a maximum of three additional points.	/3	
<b>Total Score:</b>	/103	

## APPENDIX C – Budget Template

Please include all anticipated expenses with estimated costs. **The total must match the total reported in the Grow Ohio Grant application.** All expenses must align with the overall project goals to create opportunities for students to gain knowledge of potential careers in agriculture, increase relationships between Ohio food producers and child nutrition program sponsors, and increase the amount of school-grown foods served in USDA meal programs.

Item	Estimated Cost	Narrative
<b>EX:</b> Two Hydroponic Grow Towers	\$8,000	For STEM classes and lettuce for the meal program.
<b>Total Estimated Cost of Grow Ohio Grant Funds Requested</b>		

## APPENDIX D – Application Questions

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. Program Primary Contact Full Name
2. Program Primary Contact Title
3. Program Primary Contact Phone Number
4. Program Primary Contact Email Address
5. Name of School, Center, or Organization
6. IRN of School, Center, or Organization
7. Address of School, Center, or Organization
8. Name of Superintendent or Authorized Representative
9. Name of Treasurer or Fiscal Representative
10. Name of Individual Responsible for Submitting a Claim in the Claims Reimbursement and Reporting System (CRRS)
11. Grant Track Applying For:
  - Budding Blossoms (NSLP Sponsors)
  - Super Seedling (CACFP and SFSP Sponsors)
  - Cultivate Curiosity (Family Day Care Sponsoring Organizations)
12. Objective Area(s) the Grant Project Meets (Check all that apply):
  - Agriculture Career Exploration
  - Local Producer Connections
  - Edible Gardens
13. Project Name/Title
14. How did you hear about the Grow Ohio Grant? Check all that apply.
  - Items of Interest email from the Department of Education and Workforce
  - EdConnection email from the Department of Education and Workforce
  - Email from my Education Program Specialist
  - The Department of Education and Workforce Website
  - A Department of Education and Workforce Webinar or Presentation
  - Word of Mouth
  - Other

### ELIGIBILITY

15. I have the authority in my organization to apply for the grant. (Yes/No)
16. I am an Ohio child nutrition program sponsor that administers the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and currently have an active IRN in the Claims Reimbursement and Reporting System (CRRS) account. (Yes/No)
17. My organization is in good standing with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (Good standing means the status of a program operator that meets its Program responsibilities, is current with its financial obligations, and, if applicable, has fully implemented all corrective actions within the required period of time). (Yes/No)
18. Provide organization's Unique Entity ID (UEI) number. This is the 12-character alpha-numeric value assigned by SAM.gov.

19. My organization received 2024 Grow Ohio Grant funding. (Yes/No)

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

20. Describe how the project will meet the following grant goals. Provide as much detail as possible. (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

- Create opportunities for students to gain knowledge of career potential in agriculture.
- Increase relationships between Ohio food producers and Child Nutrition program sponsors.
- Increase the amount of school-grown or raised foods served in USDA meal programs.

21. Please provide a short, 200-word or less project summary. This summary will be listed on the Grow Ohio Grant webpage if awarded funding.

## **PLAN OF WORK**

22. Describe in detail the key facilitators of the grant project, who will be assigned to each task, and provide a timeline of when grant activities will be carried out. (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

## **PROJECT OUTCOMES**

23. Describe the measurable outcomes that will be tracked. Include who will be responsible for monitoring and reporting these outcomes. (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

Ex: “By purchasing equipment to build 10 raised beds at Smith Elementary School, we estimate an additional \_\_\_\_ pounds of produce from the garden will be donated to serve the 2,500 students participating daily in our school’s breakfast and lunch programs.”

## **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

24. How will grant activities promote and engage children/students in farm to school? (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

25. How will families and community members be engaged in grant activities? (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

26. Describe how the project(s) will continue beyond the grant timeline. Include how farm to school initiatives will be integrated into the organization’s operations in the future. (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

## BUDGET

27. Amount of total funding requested. (This total must match the total on Budget Template)
28. Applicants will complete the provided Budget Template as part of the Grow Ohio Grant application. Please send the completed Budget Template to [Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Naab@education.ohio.gov) with the subject line “IRN, Grow Ohio Grant, Budget Template” before the grant deadline. Please confirm that you will provide a Budget Template with your application for it to be considered complete.

Grow Ohio Grant Budget Template: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Food-and-Nutrition/National-School-Lunch-Program/Farm-to-School-Initiative>

29. I am requesting funding for equipment (Over \$10,000 for a single item). (Yes/No)

## BONUS

30. Explain in detail how the proposed project promotes the purchase or on-site growing of at least one Ohio Harvest of the Month item for a taste test, meal, or snack.

[Ohio Harvest of the Month items.](#)

31. Explain in detail how the proposed project incorporates a literacy activity aligned with the [Read Ohio](#) campaign. (Maximum of 4,000 characters, including spaces)

ReadOhio Campaign: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Literacy/Read-Ohio>

32. Enter your district, child care center, or summer feeding site's free and reduced percentage for October 2024.