

How it Works Program Components

Love Local: Produce of the Month is a farm to school local food promotion program which consists of three key elements essential to implementing an integrated and effective farm to school program:

- Purchasing seasonal, New Mexico grown foods to complement the National School Lunch Program, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Tasting Program, or other nutrition and farm to school programs at your school.
- Utilizing promotional materials in the cafeteria, and school campus to promote your commitment to purchasing local foods and local farming in New Mexico.
- Aligning educational materials and curriculum offerings with classroom, garden, or after school lessons to teach students about healthy eating and farm to school.

To learn more please contact us :

Web:

[www.farmtotablenm.org/
programs/farm-to-cafeteria/](http://www.farmtotablenm.org/programs/farm-to-cafeteria/)

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Farm to School

Farm to school supports healthy communities by offering students access to fresh and local foods as well as education opportunities such as tasting and cooking programs, school gardens, and farm field trips.

Children and families participating in farm to school are empowered to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy by supporting local farming, contributing to vibrant, healthy communities across New Mexico.



Love Local is a farm to school program which integrates experiential learning with seasonal local food purchasing.

The program is an excellent way to introduce farm to school to your community, strengthen school garden and teaching programs, and increase the impact of local food purchasing in the cafeteria.



Produce of the Month

A local food promotion program for your school cafeteria!



www.farmtotablenm.org

[www.facebook.com/
FarmToTableNewMexico](https://www.facebook.com/FarmToTableNewMexico)



Program Promotion: **Educational Materials**

Love Local is comprised of four key educational elements highlighting seasonal produce offerings in the cafeteria:

- Nutrition education posters featuring fun facts, healthy eating and living tips
- Farmer biography posters deigned to teach students about food and farming in New Mexico
- Fruit and Veggie Trading cards for students to collect and share with friends, or support a raffle for prizes to incentivize trying new foods
- Menu Templates for school foodservice which highlight local products , nutrition facts, and recipes

Educational materials will be given to participating schools free of cost in the form of digital files. We encourage folks to modify these components so that the messaging is most effective and echoes the goals of the community. Examples might include additional languages, local images, and place based fun facts.

Schools can also complement these elements by introducing cafeteria, garden and classroom activities which align with monthly messaging; a variety of resources such as culinary, garden, and other farm to school curriculum will be available for posting onto your district Student Nutrition Website or can be accessed at : www.farmtotablenm.org



Love Local will give students, families and communities the opportunity to:

- Be introduced to new foods and new ways to enjoy familiar healthy foods.
- Learn more about why eating healthy foods are important and fun!
- Learn about local food and farming in New Mexico by getting to know local farmers and how food travels from the farm to our plates.
- Be proud that their school district supports local farmers by purchasing locally grown fresh fruits, veggies, and traditional foods.
- Have a consistent and integrated program which supports farm to school activities taking place in the district and connects farms and gardens in their community to a growing local food movement!



Local Foods **Planning and Purchasing**

Farm to Table will work with you to source, order and distribute seasonal New Mexico grown products to directly your school. Monthly local produce orders will be delivered with your regular commodity through the New Mexico HSD FANS Bureau.

Due to availability of local produce Love Local will run from August to January during the 2014-15 school year. To participate in the program we ask that you commit to purchasing 3 months of local foods and utilize the provided promotional materials (don't forget to modify) or generate your own.

Please fill in the **attached order sheet**, being sure to indicate your top choices for local products and average weekly usage. **The deadline to submit order your order form will be August 1st (for August delivery) and August 22nd to participate in the program this year.**

Produce will be available on a first-come first-serve basis, so get us your form early to ensure your top choices can be accommodated.

Once we receive your order form, Farm to Table will provide you with a delivery schedule, and receipts for your purchase upon delivery.

Working together this school year we will support local farmers and the economy, and bring locally grown fresh fruits and veggies to school communities across New Mexico.

Thanks so much for your support of this new program!