

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
2009 Economic Stimulus Funding for NSLP Equipment Assistance  
**Instructions**

**Program Contact**

Arizona Department of Education  
Health and Nutrition Programs  
602-542-8700

**Funding Purpose / Priorities**

Public Law 111-5, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The ARRA provides a one-time appropriation of \$100,000,000 out of which Arizona will receive \$2,208,964 for equipment assistance to local education agencies (LEAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Local LEAs may competitively apply for NSLP equipment assistance grants. As stipulated in the ARRA, priority will be given to schools in which at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals.

USDA regulations at 7 CFR 3016.3 and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 define equipment for the purpose of NSLP equipment assistance grants as articles of nonexpendable, tangible personal property with a useful life of more than one year and a per unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 (or such lesser amount as the LEA uses when reporting equipment as assets in its financial statements). NSLP equipment assistance grant funds can be used to purchase equipment such as a walk in freezer for school food service use; whereas renovation of the food service area would fall under the category of construction costs which must be borne by the school district's general fund.

**Schools selected for the Program:**

- Must participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Schools must comply with the federal and state guidelines for operating the program.
- Must assure the equipment procured must be necessary, reasonable and allocable.
- Must fully expend their NSLP equipment assistance grants within three (3) months of the award.

- Must comply with any reporting requirements specified by the Public Law 111-5, the ARRA.
- Must receive grant funds at a sponsor level. If a LEA has multiple schools that receive the grant, the funds will be awarded to the LEA level for distribution to the selected schools.
- Must submit a grant application for each school applying. The school may apply for one or more of the four following focus areas. Please note that the grant proposal will be evaluated on different criteria for each of the four focus areas.

Focus Areas:

1. Equipment that lends itself to improving the quality of school foodservice meals that meet the dietary guidelines (e.g., purchasing an equipment alternative to a deep fryer such as tilting braising pan, steam jacket kettle, pressure-less steamer, pressure Steamer, convection microwave oven, convection oven, convection oven and steamer, grills.)
2. Equipment that improves the safety of food served in the school meal programs (e.g., cold/hot holding equipment, dish washing equipment, refrigeration, milk coolers, freezers, blast chillers, etc.)
3. Equipment that improves the overall energy efficiency of the school foodservice operations (e.g. purchase of an energy-efficient walk in freezer replacing an outdated, energy-demanding freezer. Additional examples: refrigeration, combined convection & microwave ovens.)
4. Equipment that allows LEAs to support expanded participation in a school meal program (e.g., equipment for serving meals in a non-traditional setting or to better utilize cafeteria space such as mobile carts, kiosks, self serve coolers, hot and cold lines, serving line with built in refrigeration, warming units.)

**Eligible Applicant(s)**

Any school that participates in the NSLP is eligible to apply.

Must purchase the equipment according to procurement guidelines, including the Buy American Provision.

**Priority will be given to Schools where at least 50% of the students are eligible for free or reduced priced meals.**

## **Total Funding Amount**

Arizona will receive \$2,208,964.00

## **Matching Requirement**

No matching funds requirement.

## **Budget Period/Program Performance Period**

*June 8, 2009 – September 30, 2009*

## **REQUIRED DOWNLOADABLE DOCUMENTS (MUST BE SUBMITTED TO ADE):**

Signature Page with original signatures

- All organizations applying for the grant must have a 2009 General Statement of Assurances on file with ADE's [Grants Management Department](http://www.ade.az.gov/gme/) (<http://www.ade.az.gov/gme/>) allowing access to application.
- All organizations applying for the grant must have 2010 General Statement of Assurances on file with ADE's [Grants Management Department](http://www.ade.az.gov/gme/) (<http://www.ade.az.gov/gme/>) by May 31, 2009.

## **Application Due Date**

***April 24, 2009 by exactly 5:00:00 P.M.***

***The due date refers to the date of receipt in Grants Management of the On-line application and hard copy Signature Page and required attachments submitted to ADE. The Signature Page with original signatures and attachments may be sent or hand delivered to ADE on April 24, 2009 by exactly 5:00:00 P.M. No fax or photocopy signatures will be accepted.***

***NO EXCEPTIONS.***

## **Components and Scoring Criteria**

**Applications will be scored using the following criteria:**

1. School Eligible Free and Reduced-Price Percentage 500 points
2. School and Lunch Data 150 points
3. Individual Focus Area Overview 150 points
4. Individual Focus Area Purchase Plan 200 points