



DOD Fact Sheet

Food Distribution Program

United States Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Option
Administered by the Illinois State Board of Education, Nutrition Department

Eligibility

- Participants in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) are eligible to participate in the Food Distribution Program.
- DOD is one of three spending options for Food Distribution Program entitlement funds.
- Participants may choose to designate a portion or all their funds to DOD.

DOD Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

- DOD offers a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, grown in the United States.
- Consider seasonality when planning your budget. Since all produce must be grown in the United States, there can be less variety during the winter months.
- Produce is offered in a variety of pack sizes, from individually packaged to bulk.
- DOD produce may satisfy buy local standards.

Illinois Commodity System (ICS)

- ICS is used to manage entitlement funds, allot funds to DOD, and stay informed.
- A login and password are required for ICS.
- Follow Step 4 of the [ICS Instructions](#) to allot funds to DOD.
- DOD allotments can generally be adjusted throughout the school year, based upon budget and contract considerations.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Order Receipt System (FFAVORS)

- Participants must use the [Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System \(FFAVORS\)](#) to place orders, receipt orders, and track funding.
- A catalog of weekly offerings is released in FFAVORS every Sunday.
- Participants may submit weekly orders and receive weekly deliveries.
- Orders must be receipted in FFAVORS within 5 business days of the requested delivery date.
- The Department of Defense procures and holds the contract with the company that delivers the DOD fresh fruits and vegetables.
- There is a \$150 minimum order per delivery.

- There is no delivery fee.
- The [FFAVORS Manual](#) provides step by step instructions for ordering and receipting.
- A login and password are required for FFAVORS.

Additional Information

- New participants to DOD, including new delivery sites, may only be added to FFAVORS on June 1, August 1, October 1, December 1, and/or February 1.
- USDA requires states to expend all allotted DOD funds in the school year in which they were allotted (July 1 to June 30). As such, when funds remain towards the end of the school year, the state will open the funds to all DOD participants to place orders against the state balance. This process is called the DOD Free for All. The DOD Free for All is not planned; however, it becomes necessary when allotted funds are not spent.

For all questions concerning DOD, please contact ISBE at fdp@isbe.net.