

BREAKING: Advocacy Update 10.23.2020



USDA announces \$500 million extension of Farmers to Family Food Boxes

In a surprise announcement, the US Department of Agriculture has announced early this afternoon an extension of the Farmers to Family Food Box Program, set to end October 31, 2020, into a fourth round that will continue up until December 31, 2020. For months October 31, 2020 has been firmly billed as the finality of the Farmers to Family Food Box program, with no indication of an extension. The food boxes have been a helpful addition to the front lines of food assistance for the emergency feeding network, and we are grateful to hear this news.

From the USDA Press Release Below:

Washington, D.C., Oct. 23, 2020 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced it has authorized \$500 million for a fourth round of purchases for the [USDA Farmers to Families Food Box Program](#). USDA is issuing solicitations for the fourth round to existing Basic Ordering Agreement (BOA) holders and expects to award contracts by Oct. 30 for deliveries of food boxes from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, 2020.

In the fourth round, as in the third round, states have been allocated boxes based on the internal need of the state. The program will continue the purchase of combination boxes to include fresh produce, dairy products, fluid milk and meat products. The program also will continue to require that proposals illustrate how coverage would be provided to areas identified as opportunity zones, detail subcontracting agreements, and address the “last mile” delivery of product into the hands of the food insecure population. Entities who meet the government’s requirements and specifications will be issued agreements and submit pricing through a competitive acquisition process.

“I’m gratified by the overwhelmingly positive response to the Farmers to Families Food Box program from families, distributors, food banks, faith-based organizations and non-profits in communities across the country. We recently surpassed 110 million boxes delivered, and millions more are headed to Americans in need,” U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue said. “I’m very pleased that we are able to extend this program and continue our relief efforts for American farmers and families.”



Questions or Comments?

A pleasant Friday surprise!

Have a great weekend.

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