



WISCONSIN

FARM TO SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

2018 ANNUAL FARM TO SCHOOL REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 2009, the state has supported local foods in schools through WI Act 293. Wisconsin Farm to School (F2S) connects schools with nearby

farms to dairy, and other foods in school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. Additionally, F2S helps children develop healthy eating habits; provides nutritional, ecological, and agricultural education; and adds to farmers' market options.

2019 Key Recommendations

FUND A GRANT PROGRAM FOR SUPPLY CHAIN PARTNERS, FARMERS, AND SCHOOLS PER ACT 293.

Schools and Early Care sites need help with the equipment, labor and supplies to get started with farm to school.

Examples: 25 states provide grant programs for farm to institution, funded by everything from private foundations, public-private partnerships, and state budget allocations.

INCREASE THE SCHOOL MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATE WHILE ALSO INCENTIVIZING LOCAL PURCHASES.

An incentive to increase purchasing of local foods encourages investment of school meal dollars and supports job growth.

Examples: CA, DC, KY, NM, NY and OR all provide an additional 5-15 cents per plate for local purchases.

PROCLAIM OCTOBER AS FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH.

Join 15 other states in highlighting and celebrating connections between schools, early care sites, and Wisconsin agriculture by creating an official Wisconsin Farm to School Month in October.



2018 Accomplishments in detail



\$9.2 MILLION

Purchased from Wisconsin farmers. That's a win-win for growers & students!



\$1.8 MILLION

Grants dollars brought to Wisconsin for F2S & ECE (early care edu) programming.



295,134

Great Apple Crunch participants. 1656 sites purchasing directly from 65+ orchards.



3,500

Hours of lessons from Farm to School AmeriCorps members.



242

Direct Technical Assistance with farmers, educators and school nutrition directors.



171

Farms and orchards participating in Farm to School programs.



470

Gardens at K-12 and ECE sites. Experiential learning and healthy snacks in one.



517

Farm to School and ECE programs serving more than half of school children.



30

Farm to School and ECE newsletters reaching over 1900 practitioners.