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For more information on Small Farms, visit our website at: http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu or contact your local County Extension Agent.

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Overview of Federal Procurement Requirements for Schools.

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Federal Procurement

• Federal Regulations are the litmus paper.
  – Federal versus State or local procurement rules.

• School nutrition programs must follow specific methods of procurement for the NSLP/SBP.

• Purchasing locally produced farm products (Geographic Preference).
Federal Procurement

- 7 CFR 3016 Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments
- 7 CFR 3019 Uniform Administrative Requirement Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations
- 7 CFR 210 National School Lunch Program
- 7 CFR 220 School Breakfast Program
• Geographic Preference Option for the Procurement of Unprocessed Agricultural Products in Child Nutrition Programs, April 22, 2011
• Schools Policy Memo: SP 18-2011 Procurement Geographic Preference Q&As
Federal Procurement

• Full and Open Competition,

• Use local procurement rules that comply with the following methods:
  – Methods of Procurement
    • Small Purchase Procedures or Simple/Informal Procurement
    • Sealed Bids or Formal Advertising
    • Competitive Proposal or Request for Proposal (RFP)
    • Non Competitive Negotiations
• 210.21(d) Buy American
  
  – (2)(i) the Department shall require that a school food authority purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products.
Geographic Preference

7 CFR 210.21(g) and 7 CFR 220.16(f)

Geographic preference. (1) A school food authority participating in the Program, as well as State agencies making purchases on behalf of such school food authorities, may apply a geographic preference when procuring unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products.
Geographic Preference

The effects of the following food handling and preservation techniques shall not be considered as changing an agricultural product into a product of a different kind or character:

* Cooling; refrigerating; freezing;

* Size adjustment made by peeling, slicing, dicing, cutting, chopping, shucking, and grinding;

* Forming ground products into patties without any additives or fillers;
Geographic Preference

* drying/ dehydration;

* washing;

* packaging (such as placing eggs in cartons), vacuum packing and bagging (such as placing vegetables in bags or combining two or more types of vegetables or fruits in a single package);
* the addition of ascorbic acid or other preservatives to prevent oxidation of produce;
* butchering livestock and poultry;
* cleaning fish; and
* the pasteurization of milk.
Geographic Preference

* Unallowable food handling and preservation techniques
  – Heating/canning -- the inherent character of the product is not retained because the heating process involved in canning changes the agricultural product into a product of a different kind or character
Where do I find this guidance?

http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/f2spolicy.htm
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/regulations.htm

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