

The NM Grown Approved Supplier Program (ASP)

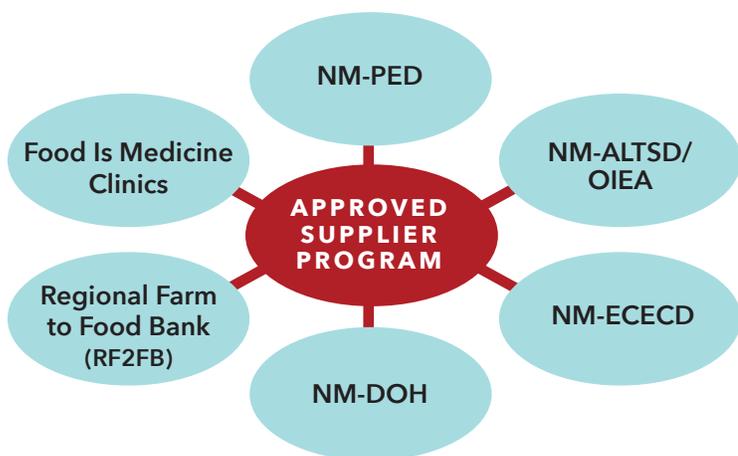


REQUEST: \$430,000 - recurring

- Required infrastructure for **ALL ongoing NM Grown local food procurement programs at PED, ALTSD, ECECD, DOH, & RF2FB**
- Local economic impact of \$13.5 million in FY26* (\$7.5 million x \$1.80)
- Local food provided by Approved Suppliers will result in nearly 2.5 million meals served to communities across the state in FY26*
- Leveraging \$14.8 million in USDA Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement (LFPA) funds since 2022
- Producer requirement for NMEDD's HFFF & RFSI federal grants that build local food infrastructure & businesses statewide
- A priority of the NMDA & executive branch Food Initiative *Projected

ISSUE: The Approved Supplier Program is the state's food quality assurance program essential to NM Grown procurement. Benefiting more than 300 producers statewide, sales for FY26 are projected at \$7.5 million, with continued growth expected in FY27 and beyond. **Secure ongoing funding is required to maintain quality standards, sustain economic growth, and innovate with industry partners.**

BUYERS - THE NM GROWN FAMILY



PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Key Stats	FY21	FY26 <i>Projected</i>
# Suppliers	65	300+
# Buyers	70	200+
# Administering Agencies	2	6
Food Sales	\$523,000	\$7.5 million

BACKBONE OF THE FOOD INITIATIVE

WITHOUT ASP, most of the 275 producers would not qualify to sell to institutions. GAP certification cost is prohibitive, and agriculture sales would decline.

WITHOUT ASP, school kids, seniors, & Regional Farm to Food Bank clients would lose healthy locally-sourced meals. Vulnerable populations require safe food with recall plans in place.

WITHOUT ASP, millions of federal dollars would be lost, undercutting economic growth (school food dollars, Regional Farm to Food Bank, HFFF, RFSI, etc.)

WITHOUT ASP, integration of NM Grown across agencies would lack system efficiencies.

“ Kids can have meat that has been bred, raised, and processed within a 10-mile radius of their schools! I've been selling beef for 15 years now, and this is the most exciting thing to happen! *Approved Meat Supplier* ”

“ Talk to some of the seniors, and they know when it's not from New Mexico. They know when it's New Mexico carrots. They know when it's New Mexico beef. They taste the difference, and they appreciate the value of it. *Administering Agency Staff Member* ”

Deep On-the-Ground SUPPORT for Producers & Buyers

PRODUCER SUPPORT

- Food Safety Training FSMA Compliance
- On-farm Technical Assistance
- Program Outreach to Historically-Underserved
- Value Chain Coordination w/ Buyers

BUYER SUPPORT

- Purchasing & Nutrition Guidelines
- Procurement & Production Planning
- Value Chain Coordination w/ Producers
- Data & Evaluation Tools

FOOD QUALITY

- Product and Packing Specifications
- Industry Roundtables
- Product Expansions – Meat & Value-Added Foods
- Tracing and Recall Program

Additional IMPACTS of the Approved Supplier Program

Bolstering the Circular Economy & More!

Supporting Family Farmers, Ranchers & Food Entrepreneurs:

Approved Suppliers include farmers, ranchers, food hubs, distributors, meat processors, and value-added producers from 28 counties statewide. At least two-thirds of program participants farm on less than 10 acres.

#1 in Nation for Local Meat Sales to Schools: According to the USDA Farm to School Census, since meat products were added to NM Grown in FY23, New Mexico has led the nation in local meat sales to schools. Year-one evaluation of the meat program found that overall satisfaction was very high, and all buyers and suppliers indicated they would participate in meat purchases/sales in the future.

Promoting Healthy Soil & Climate Resilience: The vast majority of the program's small-scale farmers and ranchers use regenerative and resilient production practices. Sales to local institutions also reduce the carbon footprint of food distribution, all supporting the circular economy.

Providing Access to Nutritious, Culturally Relevant Foods:

NM Grown provides for a wide array of local, nutritious, and culturally relevant products to be sourced from nearby food producers. For example, mutton and steamed corn are important traditional foods for many communities in and around Navajo Nation and producers have been able to sell these types of products to communities close to them.



Approved Supplier Raul Rodriguez, El Guique, NM

Innovative, Cost-Effective, Evidence-Based

Find evaluation reports at newmexicofma.org/research.php

Learn more about the ASP & NM Grown

@ NewMexicoGrown.org

