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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:** | School Nutrition Equipment Assistance for Schools | | **FUND CODE:** 722 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:** | $ 73,456 (Federal) | | |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $373,251 | | |
| **PURPOSE:** The goal of the [competitive grant](https://www.doe.mass.edu/grants/2023/722/) is to enhance and improve the school breakfast and national school lunch programs so that all students will receive the nutrition they need to achieve in school. Equipment such as a refrigerator, freezer, or cold and hot serving counters increases the capacity of schools to store and offer a wider variety of appetizing meals, including fruits and vegetables, from which the students can choose. Investing in cooking equipment such as tilt skillets, steamers, and convection ovens enhances the quality, safety, and appeal of meals offered to students by improving cooking methods, such as batch cooking closer to when the meal is served. The equipment also helps the school meet the USDA meal pattern requirements. | | | |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | | 16 | |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | | 7 | |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED:** | | 9  The demand was greater than the amount of USDA funds available to award. The LEAs with the highest grant scores were awarded grants until the funds were entirely depleted. | |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** Seven school districts representing ten schools are recommended for grants ranging in amounts from $2,391 to $16,027.  In general, the funds may be used for purchasing equipment for the implementation of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in (**and only in) the specific school requesting the grant**. Examples include equipment for heating, cooking, holding, serving, and refrigeration of foods used in the NSLP. The grant funds can be used for installation and delivery costs of the equipment purchased. If the equipment purchased for the school is ever sold, the proceeds must be returned to the School’s Nutrition Program Account. All equipment purchased with these grant funds must be tagged with a label identifying it as being purchased with FY21 USDA School Nutrition Assistance Grant Funds.  Schools with fewer hungry students benefit from students that are more engaged in learning; visit the school nurse less for hunger pains; and have improved attendance. Reducing these barriers to learning and increasing the overall health of students supports the effectiveness of the school. | | | |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Ayer-Shirley Regional School District | $5,410 |
| Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School | $2,391 |
| Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School | $15,344 |
| Martha's Vineyard Public Schools | $14,970 |
| Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School | $16,027 |
| Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School | $7,903 |
| Truro School District | $11,411 |
| TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS | **$73,456** |