

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

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2011 Alaska Farm to School Grant Program Request for Proposals - Application Deadline June 10, 2011

To: Interested Alaska Farm to School Supporters

The Division of Agriculture is soliciting proposals for Farm to School (FTS) projects promoting any activity that connects students, teachers, and school food service staff with product grown and produced in Alaska.

The Division of Agriculture intends to award multiple contracts from this solicitation. Maximum state funds to be allocated per project are \$1000.

The purpose of the FTS project is:

- to increase the understanding of Alaska youth about how food gets from its original form to the plate;
- to promote better food choices, and
- to encourage a preference for food grown and harvested in Alaska.

Requirements of the contract will include:

- Promotion of a Farm to School project or activity, not an individual business;
- Inclusion of a school food service professional (can be at the district level or school level). A letter of support from the school food service professional is required;
- Inclusion of an expert, specialist, or mentor in the community (i.e. Cooperative Extension Service, FFA, 4-H, master gardener, farmer, Agriculture in the Classroom, Division of Agriculture, or other); and
- A final report on the project, including required documentation and receipts.

Applicants should submit proposals using the proposal requirements listed in the application. The entire application package can be found on our web site www.dnr.alaska.gov/ag under the "Grants" tab.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- The relative need for the proposed activity,
- The importance of the problem to be addressed,
- Benefits likely to be derived from the project in relation to the funds requested,
- The clear support and collaboration of required expertise, and
- The project reporting plan and feedback forms collected.

"Develop, Conserve, and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans."

Please see the criteria and points associated with each evaluation method.

Proposals must be received at either the Central or Northern Region Division of Agriculture offices (see above addresses) by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 10, 2011. Selected proposals will be announced and awarded no later than July 1, 2011. Projects and reports must be complete and submitted to the Northern Regional office of the Division by 5:00 pm on December 16, 2011. Project reports received after that time and date will be considered late and influence evaluation points given on future proposals.

If you have any questions, please contact Johanna Herron at Johanna.herron@alaska.gov or at (907) 374-3714.

Sincerely,

Johanna Herron
Farm to School Program Coordinator