

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Daily Access to Local Foods for School Meals: Which Schools Make the Grade

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR, EIB) Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA

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Subject of Review: USDA's Farm to School Program was established by The Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act to improve access to local foods in eligible schools through grants and technical assistance. Today, more than 4 in 10 school districts report serving local foods or implementing other farm to school activities. To examine progress toward USDA's goal of daily availability of locally produced foods for all students and identify targets for technical assistance, this study used data from the 2013 Farm to School Census to measure the prevalence of school districts serving local food daily and the characteristics of districts that frequently serve local foods. More than 1 in 3 school districts reported serving locally produced foods at least occasionally in school meals in school year 2011-12, and of these, more than half served local foods daily, representing 19 percent of all school districts and 30 percent of students. Districts more likely to serve local foods daily tended to be larger districts, and tended to be in the Northeast, in States with higher rates of college completion, in urban areas, and in areas with a higher density of farmers markets.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers
 Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 07/07/16 End: X/X/16 Withdrawn: X/X/16

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:
How:
When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

