

**FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE** 

## Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

# What Is the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program?

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) awards grants to States, U.S. Territories, and federally recognized Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) to provide low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods (fruits, vegetables, honey, and fresh-cut herbs) at farmers' markets, roadside stands, and Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs.

#### **Who Administers SFMNP?**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) administers SFMNP at the Federal level. State agencies, such as the State Departments of Agriculture or Agencies on Aging, administer the program at the State level.

#### **How Does SFMNP Work?**

Coupons are issued to SFMNP participants to buy eligible foods from farmers, farmers' markets, roadside stands, or CSAs that have been approved by the State agency to accept SFMNP coupons. The farmers, farmers' markets, roadside stands, or CSAs then submit the redeemed SFMNP coupons to the State agency or the State agency's bank for reimbursement.

### **How Can People Participate in SFMNP?**

Low-income seniors, generally defined as individuals who are at least 60 years old and have household incomes of not more than 185 percent of the Federal poverty income guidelines, may be eligible for SFMNP benefits. Some State agencies accept proof of participation or enrollment in another meanstested program, such as the Commodity Supplemental Food Program or the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, for SFMNP eligibility.

#### Where Can I Go To Learn More About SFMNP?

The SFMNP contact person for each State agency can be found at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/senior-farmers-market-nutrition-program-sfmnp.

For further information about the program, please visit: https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/senior-farmers-market-nutrition-program-sfmnp.

#### Whom at FNS Can I Contact To Discuss SFMNP?

Please call FNS Division of External and Governmental Affairs at 703-305-2281.

| Key Senior Farmers' Market<br>Nutrition Program Data | FY 2013    | FY 2014    | FY 2015    | FY 2016    | FY 2017<br>(estimate) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
|  |            |            |            |            |                       |
| Grant awards (in thousands)                          | \$21,467.5 | \$20,861.4 | \$20,893.2 | \$20,283.8 | \$20,419.1            |
|  |            |            |            |            |                       |