



February 15, 2023

Invitation to Participate in the 2023-2024 Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

As you prepare for a great growing season and start scheduling where you'll be selling your produce this year, complete our application to become an authorized farmer-vendor for the WIC Farmers' and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP and SFMNP)! As an authorized farmer you'll be able to sell your Alaska grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs to our seniors, women, infants, and children who have been issued our FMNP and SFMNP benefits. Seniors are eligible to purchase Alaska produced honey, too.

The FMNP and SFMNP are both federally funded nutrition programs created with the goal of promoting farmers' markets and the consumption of fresh, locally grown foods. For more details, please visit:

WIC FMNP: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/>

Senior FMNP: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/>

WE WANT TO PROMOTE YOUR FARM! We will create a listing of sales locations for our authorized farmers' markets, farmers, and farm stands. This list will be posted to our public website and distributed to program participants. If you would like to be included in this list, your completed application must be received no later than April 15th. Inclusion also requires application approval.

Important dates:

February 15 – May 15. Open application period for the 2023-2024 Farmers' Market Nutritional Program and Senior Farmers' Market Nutritional Program season. If your completed application is received **after** May 15th, your application will be denied for the current season, but you will be encouraged to reapply during the next open application period.

June 1 – October 31: Authorized farmer-vendors accept WIC Farmers' Market and Senior Farmers' Market checks.

November 15: The last date that an authorized farmer-vendor may deposit FMNP and SFMNP checks in their bank. Checks deposited after that date may not be reimbursed.

Application Process:

1. Complete an application, banking form, and farmer-vendor agreement.
2. Send the completed application packet to the WIC Program Office at the address listed above.
3. The Program will review your application and send you a notice via email if additional information is needed.
4. If approved, you will receive notice of your authorization by mail including a copy of your finalized agreement, "Welcome Here" posters, and a copy of the Farmer-Vendor Handbook.
5. Participation in at least one training teleconference each year is a program requirement for all authorized Farmers' Market managers and farmers. If you do not participate in at least one training your authorization could be terminated.

Notice: The State of Alaska WIC and Senior FMNP program will be transitioning to EBT benefits in 2024. This may affect some Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

After reviewing the mentioned documents, please contact our office with any questions. You can expect authorization to take up to 30 days after we receive your completed application. For more information, contact:

Sarah Slater
(907) 500-2721

Sarah.Slater@alaska.gov

State of Alaska WIC Office
(907) 465-3100

doh.dpa.wic.vendor@alaska.gov

We appreciate your commitment to providing fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs to your low-income neighbors.

Sincerely,



Sarah Slater
S/FMNP Program Coordinator



Erin Fahsholtz
WIC Vendor Manager