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For Immediate Release

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102 Awards Distributed to Utah Elementary Schools from USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

SALT LAKE CITY – More than 50,000 Utah elementary students from low-income schools throughout the state have received a great opportunity provided through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program](#). The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program provides all children in participating schools with a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables outside of the lunch period.

The goal of the program is to:

- Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices.
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children’s fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children’s diets to impact their present and future health.
- Introduce healthy snack options.

Funding for the program comes from the USDA Farm Bill for the National School Lunch Program. Utah's total funding for the program is \$2.8 million and it is available through an application process. Preference is given to schools with low-income households.