



EDIBLE EDUCATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR NEW PARTNER SCHOOLS

SCHOOL INFORMATION	
Name of School:	
School Address:	School Phone:
Email:	
Total number of Teachers:	
Total number of Students:	
% Free and Reduced Lunch:	

PRINCIPAL INFORMATION	
Principal Name:	
Principal Email:	Number of years at school:

1. We'd like to learn why your school is interested in beginning an Edible Education program. Please check the aspects of our Edible Education program that you are interested in implementing at your school and briefly describe why they are important for your school. *Select all that apply:*

School Learning Gardens (Designing and building a garden, growing food, creating an outdoor living laboratory for experiential education).



Classroom Cooking (preparing recipes using fresh produce, nutrition education, tastings of garden produce, Seed to Table celebrations).

Fostering Healthy School Environment (implementing policies that make the healthy choice the easy choice for teachers, students, and staff).

LEARNING GARDENS

2. Where would your school like to place your garden? Please describe the space and verify that it meets the minimum requirements below.

Please initial to verify that your school can meet these requirements:

_____ Area within school grounds totaling at least 900 sq. ft.

_____ Area with level ground, or agreement with district facilities to level ground.

_____ Area receiving 6+ hours of sunlight daily.

_____ Access to water main line/irrigation line within 25 feet from site (not just a hose bib).

_____ Vehicle access for deliveries of lumber and soil.

_____ Commitment not to use pesticides or other harmful chemicals in school garden space.

_____ Secure space near garden to store tools where teachers and students can access them.

_____ Parent and community volunteer recruitment for 1-2 workdays to install garden infrastructure.



3. School gardens require an initial investment of \$2,500-\$15,000 depending on size and complexity. La Semilla strives to leverage grants, community partnerships, and local donations to cover the cost of school garden infrastructure at 8 local schools each year.

INITIAL INVESTMENT

Please indicate the level of financial commitment your school can make towards a garden. Select all that apply:

- We are applying for a full scholarship, and our school can commit to covering smaller, ongoing costs after La Semilla's support concludes.
- We can invest \$_____ toward initial garden infrastructure.
- In addition to contributing to initial garden infrastructure, our school can commit \$_____ to school garden amenities not provided by the program (e.g. Shade structures, tool sheds, etc.)

ONGOING INVESTMENT

Once established, school gardens can usually be maintained with supply costs of \$200-\$500 per year. La Semilla will do its best to supply necessary supplies during years 1-3 but would like to know that the school is committed to supporting the garden beyond year 3. Simple garden fundraisers like herb teas, flower bouquets, and produce sales can help offset these costs, however these should not be the sole funding sources for the garden.

Our school would commit to ongoing financial support of our garden by:

Select all that apply:

- Contributing \$_____ from our school budget annually to the garden each year.
- Raising \$_____ through PTA Fundraisers, free dress days, etc.
- Applying for mini-grant opportunities.
- Raising \$_____ through garden-based fundraisers.
- Other: _____



CLASSROOM COOKING:

4. In the Edible Education Program, schools receive 8 monthly boxes during the months of September-November and January-May.

Please *initial* boxes to verify that your school can meet these requirements:

_____ A refrigerator space where 5 farm boxes can be stored for up to a week once per month. (Farm boxes are delivered to the front office in insulated tote bags.)

_____ A secure location to store the school cooking kit where participating teachers can have equal access to it.

_____ **School agrees to pay a \$90/teacher program fee** to cover half the cost of the monthly farm boxes. The other half is covered by La Semilla's grant funding.

5. Some of our school gardens produced over 250 lbs of produce last year. We strive to make sure all of the produce grown in gardens does not go to waste and gets eaten by someone in our community. What are a few ways you would use or distribute produce among your school community?

6. Participation in Edible Education will require some extra time and effort from involved teachers. Principals at our partner schools support teachers in various ways to help make Edible Education easy for teachers to implement while recognizing teachers for their efforts. If your school is selected, in what ways can you, as Principal, support teachers participating in Edible Education? *Select all that apply:*

- I will allot Edible Education teachers additional prep time.
- I will allocate funds to pay a teacher a stipend to serve as Garden Coordinator.
- I will consider teachers' participation in Edible Education in teacher evaluations.
- I will consider teacher participation in Edible Education as part of their professional development plan.
- I will allow teacher participation in Edible Education to fulfill a committee requirement.
- I will create a Wellness/Garden Committee that will support Edible Education teachers.
- Other: _____
- Other: _____



HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

7. Creating a Healthy School Environment means taking steps and implementing policies that make the healthy choice the easy choice for teachers, students, and staff. If selected for the Edible Education Program, what are a few ways you commit to fostering a healthy school environment? *Select all that apply:*

- Schedule recess before lunch for all students.
- Add salad bar to cafeteria or promote existing salad bar.
- Ensure healthy food is the main choice for snacks and meals at schoolwide events.
- Offer at least 50% healthy options in the concession stand.
- Ensure fundraisers have healthy foods and/or non-food items as the main choice.
- Offer infused water or alternatives to sugary drinks at school.
- Send home letter to parents offering activity parties as alternative to birthday parties.
- Only distribute birthday party snacks in last 20 minutes of school.
- Other: _____
- Other: _____

8. Very important—if your school were a fruit or vegetable, what would it be and why?

By signing this document, I agree that the information included in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge and certify that if selected, our school community can meet the commitments outlined in this application.

Principal Printed Name: _____

Principal Signature: _____ Date: _____

QUESTIONS?

Please reach out to EdibleEducation@lasemillafoodcenter.org with any questions or to submit your school's application materials. The sooner we get your materials, the sooner we can jump in to Edible Education! Please return your application as soon as possible, but no later than **Wednesday, August 30th, 2017.**