



## EDIBLE EDUCATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR RETURNING PARTNER SCHOOLS

Please reach out to [EdibleEducation@lasemillafoodcenter.org](mailto: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 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

SCHOOL INFORMATION	
Name of School:	
School Address:	School Phone:
Email:	
Total number of Teachers:	
Total number of Students in school:	
Total number of Students in Edible Education Classrooms:	
% Free and Reduced Lunch:	

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

1. Please reflect on your school's experience with Edible Education so far. What has gone well? What can be improved? Where do you need more support from La Semilla? What would you like to see more of at your school?

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2. We'd like to know why your school is interested in continuing to develop an Edible Education program. Please check the aspects of our Edible Education program that you are most excited to put energy towards in the coming year 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).

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

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

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## LEARNING GARDENS

### ***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 beginning in the second year we like to know that the school is committed to developing mechanisms to support the garden beyond year 3. Simple garden fundraisers like herb teas, flower bouquets, and produce sales can help offset ongoing costs, however these we recommend that these are not 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: \_\_\_\_\_
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### CLASSROOM COOKING:

3. 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.

4. 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?
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## HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

5. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF EDIBLE EDUCATION

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. 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 teachers' 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: \_\_\_\_\_



Each professional development workshop is held at a partner school so that we can offer hands-on training in school gardens and to provide teachers an opportunity to see other school gardens in our network. Would your school be willing to allow La Semilla's Edible Education team to host a professional development workshop at your school site? *Please select the dates you would be willing to host or select none of the above.*

	LAS CRUCES SCHOOLS DATES	Please Check Below	EL PASO SCHOOLS DATES	Please Check Below
Workshop 1	September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2017		September 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2017	
Workshop 2	October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2017		October 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2017	
Workshop 3	January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2018		February 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2018	
Workshop 4	March 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2018		March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2018	
	None of the above		None of the above	

## EVALUATION

7. Each year we work with partner schools to conduct evaluations to ensure our program is effective and meeting the needs of our community. Our evaluation efforts are supported by Institute for Healthy Living in El Paso, Texas. In addition to weighing produce and getting feedback on the program from teachers, we need participating students at 6-8 partner schools to complete pre/post surveys with students that assess preferences for fresh fruit and vegetables. We also use the Veggie-meter, which uses a light to measure the amount of carotenoids deposited in students' skin and tells us whether or not students' consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables increases during the program. *Please indicate by checking if you would be willing to participate in aspects of La Semilla's program evaluation below. Select all that apply:*

- Pre/Post Veggie-meter (20-30 minute commitment per participating class, collected in September and May)
- Pre/Post Student surveys (15-20 minute commitment per participating class, requires access to computer lab, collected in September and May)

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

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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: \_\_\_\_\_