



School Nutrition Program

BUY AMERICAN JUSTIFICATION FORM

The Buy American Justification Form assists school food authorities (SFAs) with validation documentation to purchase non-domestic food products with nonprofit school food service account funds, in accordance with 7CFR 210.21(d). SFAs should complete this form upon identification of each non-domestic food product being served in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) School Nutrition Programs. Compliance with the Buy American Provision (BAP) is included in each SFAs Administrative Review (AR), and SFAs may use this to demonstrate justification for using and/or receiving non-domestic products when appropriate. The Buy American requirements are summarized in USDA Memo SP 38-2017: Compliance with and Enforcement of the Buy American Provision in the NSLP. SFAs are listed as the responsible parties for justification.

SNP School or District documenting justification:			
Date:		Name of individual completing form:	

Non-Domestic Agricultural Product:		
Please enter answers in column below:		
Product Name:		
Purchase Unit:		
Storage Area: (Ex: cooler, freezer, dry storage, etc.)		
Country of Origin of Non-Domestic Product: (Ex: processed in China, grown in Mexico, packed in Brazil, etc.)		
Alternative Considerations to Using Non-Domestic Products		
Please enter answers in column below:		
1. Cost analysis: (Domestic cost is significantly higher than non-domestic)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
a. Bid Cost per Unit of Domestic Product:	\$	
b. Bid Cost per Unit of Non-Domestic Product:	\$	
Additional explanation for decision:		
2. Availability or Seasonality: (Product not currently grown domestically)		
a. Documentation demonstrating current unavailability on file: (Ex: Copy of Weekly Marketing Report or	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO



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National Processing Report from Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)) Note: Letter from vendor is insufficient by itself.		
3. Are other domestic Sources available? (Ex: Bid-awarded domestic juice unavailable from vendor's listed manufacturer but can be ordered through a different manufacturer with an insignificant cost increase.)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
a. If yes, explain how you used other domestic sources:		
4. Is there a comparable substitute? (Ex: serving domestic edamame instead of non-domestic garbanzo beans during seasons of low availability)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
a. If yes, what other alternatives to using non-domestic foods were considered?		
Resulting Decision for Domestic vs. Non-Domestic		
Please enter answers in column below:		
After considering alternatives to non-domestic products, were foreign products still used?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
a. If yes, explain why non-domestic products were used instead of an alternate domestic product:		

Note: School should retain and make notes of communications regarding the reasons for the exception to the Buy American provision. This includes but is not limited to email or procurement notes of discussion regarding alternatives to non-domestic products purchased by the school.

 Signature of Food Service Director

 Date