2020-2021
FRESH ACCESS BUCKS – VENDOR CONTRACT

Lakeland Downtown Development Authority oversees an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) program so that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients (formally known as Food Stamps) can shop at the market. This program is operated by Lakeland Downtown Farmers Curb Market. In addition to accepting SNAP benefits, this market participates in an incentive program known as Fresh Access Bucks (FAB). An initiative of Feeding Florida, FAB endeavors to provide opportunities to food insecure Florida households by making fresh, Florida grown fruits and vegetables more affordable and accessible through incentives for SNAP participants at the point of purchase at farmers markets, farm stands, mobile markets and Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) statewide.

Through the USDA’s Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program Grant, FAB doubles the money SNAP recipients can spend on Florida-grown fruits and vegetables when they shop at this farmers market. Please refer to the Vendor’s Guide to Accepting SNAP and Fresh Access Bucks for more detailed information on how the program works.

In accordance with regulations set forth by the USDA Federal Regulations of the Food Stamp Program and the Florida Department of Children and Families, vendors who sign this agreement ensure they are aware of the rules of the program.

This agreement allows _______________________________ (Vendor) to participate in the SNAP/EBT and FAB program administered by the Market Outlet.

The Vendor is bound by this agreement to follow all guidelines, as set forth by federal and state authorities and the Market Outlet.

The Market Outlet reserves the right to immediately suspend or terminate Vendor from the program if the Market Outlet observes, or receives evidence of, failure to abide by any of the agreements below.

The Fresh Access Bucks Program will operate in the following manner:

Patrons who have been issued an authorized Florida Access SNAP/EBT card may purchase scrip in the form of plastic tokens, up to the amount authorized, from designated Market Outlet staff. The patron’s SNAP/EBT card will be debited for the value of the tokens purchased.

Patrons will use the tokens only for purchase of eligible foods according to USDA (https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/eligible-food-items) and FL DCF (http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/docs/fafactsheet.pdf) SNAP eligibility guidelines:

- SNAP benefits may be spent on breads and cereals, fruits and vegetables, meats, fish and poultry, dairy products, seeds and plants which produce food to eat.
- SNAP benefits may not be spent on food products that contain alcohol or tobacco, items labeled for pet consumption, vitamins and supplements, and foods sold hot at the point-of-sale.

Patrons have no time limit on the use of purchased tokens at the Market Outlet. The Market Outlet staff will exchange tokens for receipt each market day, only with authorized vendors.
The only tokens used will be plastic embossed tokens with the unique imprint of SNAP/EBT OR FRESH ACCESS BUCKS, with the currency amount printed on two sides. Tokens will be in $1 and $5 denominations.

The Fresh Access Bucks Program will be strictly and carefully monitored at all times by the Market Outlet.

Vendor Agrees to the following:

- Only accept Market Outlet SNAP tokens, and will not accept any other market’s tokens and/or printed scrip.
- To accept SNAP EBT tokens only for the purchase of SNAP eligible foods, including: bread products, produce, seeds and plants which produce food to eat and the following items labeled for human consumption: meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy products.
- **Not** to accept SNAP EBT tokens for the purchase of SNAP ineligible foods, including: hot food and food labeled as for pet consumption only. Or any non-food items including: soaps, medicine, clothing, crafts, vitamins, seeds and plants which do not produce food to eat.
- Only accept green, FRESH ACCESS BUCKS tokens, for fruits and vegetables grown in the state of Florida and/or within 50 miles from the market if out of state.
- That no U.S. currency will be returned to the customer as change for SNAP EBT tokens if payment for product is solely by tokens. The value of the tokens received by Vendor will not exceed the posted value of the product purchased by the customer. (The customer will receive full value for his or her tokens.)
- Post clearly marked SNAP and FAB signage for eligible products;
- If the Vendor is not in compliance with any of the above, they will not be allowed to accept or redeem SNAP and/or FAB funding.

**SNAP Fraud Prevention**

The Market Outlet agrees to monitor the SNAP program according to USDA regulations and will ensure that Vendors have access to SNAP regulations. The Market Outlet will maintain updated signed Vendor Contracts that includes a punitive provision for accepting SNAP or FAB currency for ineligible items. The Market Outlet and certified officials will conduct Secret Shopping for SNAP and FAB eligible items. If a vendor is found to participate in fraudulent SNAP or FAB activity, it is grounds for removal from the SNAP/EBT and FAB program.

The USDA takes SNAP fraud very seriously and considers SNAP trafficking a crime which can include criminal investigations, fines up to $10,000, and up to 5 years of jail time. The Market Outlet are responsible to report any fraudulent activity to the USDA and the Florida Department of Children and Families at the following links:


SNAP and incentive funds through FINIP provide federally sanctioned services intended to support low income families and small farmers. Learn more here:


If Vendor fails to meet the expectations within this contract, the Market Outlet reserves the right to cancel this agreement for non-performance and remove the Vendor from the SNAP and FAB Program and the Market Outlet.
I, _____________________________________(Vendor) understand that I am able to and will accept these tokens at my market booth for corresponding eligible items.

(Please fill in which you will be accepting)

☐ Red SNAP/EBT Tokens: fruits & vegetables, bread products, meat, fish, poultry, salsa, honey, jelly, pickles, eggs, dairy, seeds & plants which produce food to eat

☐ Green Fresh Access Bucks Tokens: Florida grown fruits & vegetables, seeds & plants which produce food to eat

I understand that if I fail to collect corresponding tokens for eligible items, I am committing fraud and may be suspended or terminated from the SNAP and FAB Program at the market outlet. If my inventory changes, I understand I am to notify the SNAP/EBT or Market Outlet representative and fill out a new contract.

______________________________
Vendor Representative Name (print)

______________________________
Signature

______________________________
Date

______________________________
Vendor Organization, Title

______________________________
Market Outlet Representative Name

______________________________
Signature

______________________________
Date

______________________________
Market Outlet Representative Title

How do you want to be paid?

Bill Pay (bank check 5-7 business days)  Y or N - if yes, make check payable to: ____________________________

ACH (direct deposit – (next day deposit) Y or N – if yes, need ACH form filled out