

What is the Good Food Purchasing initiative?



A guide for vendors, city agencies, and every day New Yorkers

What is the purpose of the Good Food Purchasing (GFP) initiative?

The Good Food Purchasing initiative supports several city goals:

- 1. It increases **transparency** about the food that NYC agencies buy, prepare, and serve
- 2. It ensures that NYC food spend supports **individual**, **planetary**, and community health
- 3. It drives positive change across local, regional, and global food system with the purchasing power of NYC

These goals are achieved through **values-based procurement** of food for city agencies that serve and provide food and meals to New Yorkers.

What is values-based procurement?

Values-based procurement is a metrics-based initiative that uses intentional procurement – or purchasing, through contract – of food to support **transparency**, **environmental sustainability**, **nutrition**, **local economies**, **a valued workforce**, and **animal welfare** in our food system.

How did Good Food Purchasing get started in NYC?

With inspiration from the City of Los Angeles and support from the Center for Good Food Purchasing, New York City began experimenting with a Good Food Purchasing framework in 2017 using food purchasing data first from Health + Hospitals, and then from New York City Public Schools. In 2019, the GFP initiative expanded to six additional agencies, and in 2022, the initiative was made permanent by an Executive Order that required vendors to report details on the food and meals served.

Who is involved?

The City provides more than 230 million meals a year to vulnerable New Yorkers. This occurs in schools, homeless shelters, older adult centers (OACs), food pantries, afterschool and early childhood education programs, hospitals and health centers, jails, and juvenile detention centers. City agencies buy food and then prepare meals, or contract with food service companies or non-profit organizations to prepare, deliver, and serve meals. The Mayor's Office of Food Policy oversees the initiative and reports progress annually.