

# GREAT PLATES DELIVERED

## Frequently Asked Questions – Restaurants & Food Providers

On April 24, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the launch of a first-in-the-nation **Great Plates Delivered** program. The program is designed to support adults 65 and older and adults 60-64 who are at high-risk from COVID-19, in staying home and staying healthy by delivering three (3) nutritious meals a day, and also provide essential economic stimulus to local businesses and workers struggling to stay afloat during the COVID crisis. The following **Frequently Asked Questions** provide guidance to any individual or local community impacted by this program and choosing to participate.

### Program Overview

#### **How does the program work?**

Local administrators partner with multiple local Restaurants & Food Providers to deliver three (3) nutritious daily meals to qualified individuals enrolled in the program. Each community conducts outreach to known senior centers and senior populations to enroll qualified individuals in need. The program is locally managed to ensure needs of the communities within California are addressed.

#### **Which Restaurants & Food Providers qualify for participation in the program?**

Each local administrator determines which local Restaurants & Food Providers (e.g., restaurants, kitchens, local farms, caterers) are eligible to participate in the program. Selection is contingent on food provider's ability to meet volume and nutritional standards; source local produce/meats (if able); meet cultural needs; and prioritize local jobs, worker retention, worker health and safety, and standards of equity and fairness in employment practices, wages, hiring, and promotion. 100% of meals must be supplied by a food provider not currently participating in a state or federal meal service program.

#### **How long will the program run?**

The program runs until July 9, 2021, which is the timeframe currently approved by FEMA. The state intends on requesting an extension for the Great Plates Delivered program.

### Application and Meal Delivery Process

#### **How can I apply to participate in the program as a local food provider?**

To participate, local Restaurants & Food Providers must contact their county office local administrator. Each local administrator establishes a streamlined process to apply to the program, including a screening process to ensure Restaurants & Food Providers meet program criteria.

#### **Are there any meal requirements?**

Yes, each meal, at a minimum, must meet the following requirements:

- Breakfast low in sodium, no sugary drinks (<24 calories /8 oz. and of fruit juice, must be only 100 percent fruit juice allowed); and lunch / dinner a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable on each dish, and low in sodium, no sugary drinks (<24 calories /8 oz. and of fruit juice, must be only 100 percent fruit juice allowed).

#### **How are meals delivered?**

Each local administrator determines how meals are delivered (through Restaurants & Food Providers, school bus drivers, delivery platform networks, etc.). Individuals delivering meals are subject to background checks.

#### **What are the food safety requirements for delivery?**

Restaurants & Food Providers should continue to follow established food safety protocols and best practices for retail food establishments and important COVID-19 recommendations. Resources include the following:

- [FDA Guidance](#) & [CDC Guidance](#) & [CDPH Guidance](#)

#### **How can I apply to participate in the program as a local food provider?**

Restaurants and other local Restaurants & Food Providers (farmers, food kitchens, or caterers) interested in participating should fill out an Interest Form. The state is collecting the food provider information and passing details to the appropriate local administrator(s). Great Plates Delivered is a locally managed program, so the local administrator will be the entity who will reach out to you regarding next steps.

#### **How will I be reimbursed for meal deliveries?**

Each local administrator determines program payment mechanisms.

