

Working Together to Feed Our Future:

Dairy Council of California Your Partner in Farm to School

Fresh, local food is growing in popularity among consumers and in school systems across the state. California schools are growing over 6 million healthy kids. Dairy Council of California is your partner in building a comprehensive farm to school program. When fully implemented, farm to school programs feed students' minds and bodies by connecting schools and local farms.

Supporting local and regional farmers in California



~1,438

dairy farmers operate in California, producing nearly 20% of our nation's supply of milk and ranking second in cheese production.¹

Providing students with fresh, locally grown and produced food choices

4.5 million

breakfasts and lunches are served to California kids each day. Milk is an essential part of every meal offered, providing nine essential nutrients needed for growth and brain development.²



Offering nutrition-based curriculum to teach students the importance of eating healthy local foods



52,000

teachers across the state are connecting the classroom to the cafeteria and to our local farms by teaching Dairy Council of California nutrition education programs.

Delivering hands-on learning opportunities

461,000

students attend our Mobile Dairy Classroom each year, discovering how milk in their school lunch goes from cow to school in just two days.



1. California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Agricultural Statistics Review 2015-2016.

2. California Department of Education Annual Child Nutrition Program Participation Data, School Nutrition Programs 2014-2015.

Our staff of registered dietitians, education and communication experts and 12 community nutrition advisers produces balanced programs and resources to assist schools in fostering healthy school environments for student wellness and academic success.

Available resources include:

- Nutrition education presentations, booklets and tip sheets for parents
- Nutrition lesson plans for teachers
- Tools for enhancing milk's role in the school lunch program
- Local school wellness policy information and guidance
- Sample menus, healthy recipes and meal ideas
- Information and guidance on the latest nutrition research and trends