**Source: USDA Fresh Vegetable**

**Date: June 26 2018**

**US red potatoes purchase program announced**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced plans to purchase Red Potatoes for distribution to various food nutrition assistance programs. Purchases will be made under the authority of Section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, with the purpose to encourage continued domestic consumption of these products by diverting them from the normal channels of trade and commerce.

Solicitations will be issued in the near future, and will be available electronically through the [Web-Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) system](https://www.usda.gov/topics/food-and-nutrition/web-based-supply-chain-management%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank). A hard copy of the solicitation will not be available. Public WBSCM information is available without an account on the WBSCM Public Procurement Page.

All future information regarding this acquisition, including solicitation amendments and award notices, will be published through WBSCM, and on the Agricultural Marketing Service's website at [www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food](http://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank). Interested parties shall be responsible for ensuring that they have the most up-to-date information about this acquisition. The contract type is anticipated to be firm-fixed price. Deliveries are expected to be to various locations in the United States on an FOB destination basis.

Pursuant to Agricultural Acquisition Regulation 470.103(b), commodities and the products of agricultural commodities acquired under this contract must be a product of the United States, and shall be considered to be such a product if it is grown, processed, and otherwise prepared for sale or distribution exclusively in the United States. Packaging and container components under this acquisition will be the only portion subject to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement and Free Trade Agreements, as addressed by FAR clause 52.225-5.

Offerers are urged to review all documents as they pertain to this program, including the latest:

* AMS Master Solicitation for Commodity Procurements (MSCP), April 12, 2017;
* Applicable commodity specification(s) identified in the subsequent solicitation(s);
* Qualification Requirements for Prospective Contractors Selling Commodities to USDA, March 1, 2017.

These documents are available on the AMS Commodity Procurement website.

To be eligible to submit offers, potential contractors must meet the AMS vendor qualification requirements. The AMS point of contact for new vendors is Andrea Lang who can be reached by phone at (202) 720-4237 or by email to Andrea.Lang@ams.usda.gov.

Details of these requirements are available online at:

[https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food/becoming-approved](https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food/becoming-approved%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

Once qualification requirements have been met, access to WBSCM will be provided. Bids, modifications, withdrawals of bids, and price adjustments shall be submitted using this system. Submission of the above by any means other than WBSCM will be determined nonresponsive.

For more information:

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**USDA Fresh Vegetable**

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