

Frequently Asked Questions

By Administrators & Food Service Directors

1. Why 60% of the NDE Child Nutrition Report minus commodities?

We need the best dollar obligation possible to get the best prices from the vendors. The 60% obligation still allows schools to purchase outside of the program.

Milk is available through the program and does apply to the commitment.

Inedible products purchased also apply to your commitment.

The NDE report is based on edible product only, but all purchases will apply to your commitment.

2. What happens if the vendor doesn't live up to the contract?

The schools should contact NE Coop regarding the problem. Steps will be taken to correct the problem without damaging the integrity of the program.

3. Will there still be discounts and specials available during the year?

If the vendor's cost is less, the savings will be passed on to the customer on the price list or through special pricing.

Coupons will apply.

The prices provided by the vendor are "specials" throughout the year.

4. How will the schools become aware of new items?

The sales representative should be used as a product resource as well as an order taker.

The vendor has a food show at least once a year, where all their purveyors display new products. There is no charge for this event.

Product shows are held at the State Convention and at smaller gatherings throughout the year.

5. Will the schools be able to purchase other merchandise from the Prime Vendor at a bid price?

Yes, the vendors will honor bid prices on all available food related merchandise.

6. Will the vendor work with the smaller schools at the end of the year when order requirements are more difficult to achieve?

Yes, but the procedures will have to be worked out with the sales representative.

Most often, if the Prime Vendor is used throughout the year, meeting the commitment goal will be no problem. Many schools exceed their commitment.

7. Will the vendor drop product for a small school?

Yes, usually drops are done weekly, however in the case of smaller schools, a semi-monthly drop or a drop once a month may be called for. These details can be worked out with the school's sales representative. There is a \$300.00 minimum order requirement.

8. Does the 1/3 commitment include equipment and other inedible products?

The commitment was established from edible product costs reported to the NDE, but all purchases will apply to your commitment. ie: paper/plastic, equipment etc.

We hope these Highlights and Question/Answers help you understand the intent of the program.