

# SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND

Contracting Entity (CE)

SID MILLER, COMMISSIONER

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) administers the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) by agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

An organization that wishes to operate the SFMNP must submit this completed agreement ("Agreement") and all other documentation required by TDA.

Upon signing this Agreement, an applicant organization (herein after referred to as the "Contracting Entity" or "CE") expressly agrees to comply with the terms and conditions contained within this Agreement.

| CONTRACTING ENTITY INFORMATION   |         |          |  |
|--|---------|----------|--|
| Name of Applicant Contracting Entity (CE):   |         |          |  |
|  |         |          |  |
| Contracting Entity Official (To be completed by authorized individual with ability to apply on behalf of CE and bind CE to legal Program Agreements) |         |          |  |
| Name   | Title   |          |  |
| Street Address   |         |          |  |
| City   | State   | Zip Code |  |
| Mailing Address (Only if different from street address):   |         |          |  |
| Phone No.  | Fax No. | E-mail   |  |
| Contracting Entity ID# (CE ID) (Assigned by TDA)   |         |          |  |

#### I. INTRODUCTION

By completing and submitting this Agreement to TDA, the applicant CE hereby requests approval to participate in the SFMNP for Program Years 2022 through 2024.

TDA shall informall CEs, in writing, of the approval or denial of its application. If an application for participation in the SFMNP is denied, TDA will provide the basis for the denial.

In the event that TDA approves the CE for participation in the SFMNP, this Agreement becomes legally effective and binding as an Agreement between TDA and the CE, pursuant to the terms set forth in this Agreement.

#### II. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Agreement:

- A. Contracting entity (CE) means any nonprofit entity or local government agency that certifies eligible participants, issues SFMNP vouchers and/or provides nutrition education or information on operational aspects of the SFMNP to SFMNP participants.
- B. *Program* or S*FMNP* means the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program authorized by Section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, 7 U.S.C. 3007.
- C. *Participant* means the person or household who meets the eligibility requirements of the SFMNP and to whom vouchers have been issued.
- D. *Voucher* means a coupon, check, or other negotiable financial instrument by which benefits under the SFMNP are transferred to SFNMP participants.

#### III. AGREEMENT

This Agreement specifies the rights and responsibilities of TDA and the CE identified above (collectively, the parties) in the SFMNP as administered in Texas by TDA for Program Years 2022 through 2024.

By signing this Agreement, the parties are bound by its terms and conditions until its ending date, unless terminated earlier. This Agreement may be terminated under the following circumstances: (1) for cause by either party; (2) by mutual consent of both parties; (3) by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party, or (4) notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if funds for the continued fulfillment of this Agreement by TDA are at any time not available or are insufficient, through failure of any entity to appropriate funds or otherwise, then TDA will have the right to terminate this Agreement at no additional cost and with no penalty whatsoever by giving written notice documenting the lack of funding.

#### IV. TERM

This Agreement shall take effect upon signature by both parties, and shall expire on December 31, 2024, unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with its terms.

# V. CONSIDERATION

In consideration for the services rendered by CE pursuant to this Agreement, TDA agrees to pay CE for each valid SFMNP voucher submitted. Valid voucher submission requires use of the SFMNP claim for reimbursement form within thirty (30) days of CE's receipt of any voucher, with the exception of an absolute voucher filing deadline of December 15<sup>th</sup> of each Program Year.

TDA may deem submitted SFMNP vouchers as invalid for payment for any of the following reasons:

- 1. Request for payment from CE to TDA is postmarked after December 15<sup>th</sup> of the applicable Program Year.
- 2. Any required signatures are missing or any signatures and/or dates are missing or are determined by TDA to be forged or improperly altered.
- 3. The voucher has been accepted for transaction before or after the "Dates of Use" printed on the voucher.
- 4. Unauthorized foods, non-food items, and/or cash have been issued in exchange for the voucher.
- 5. Voucher has been accepted for less than its stated value.
- 6. The SFMNP vendor identification number is missing from the voucher, or is determined by TDA to be forged or improperly altered.

In addition to paying CE for each valid claim properly submitted for reimbursement to TDA, if funds are available, TDA will pay to CE a fee for administering the SFMNP, including the distribution, collection, and payment of SFMNP Vouchers. Payment will be made for allowable expenses of the Program Year upon receipt of a properly submitted claim for reimbursement. TDA will pay CE in accordance with the Texas Prompt Payment Act, Texas Gov't Code Chapter 2251.

#### VI. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TDA

#### TDA agrees to:

- 1. Distribute SFMNP vouchers to CE. Vouchers may only be used once and are numbered sequentially. Vouchers are worth \$4.00 each, issued in booklets of five (5) vouchers for a total value of \$20.00. Booklets are issued to qualifying SFMNP participants for redemption at qualifying farmers' markets.
- 2. Train the CE to properly operate the SFMNP prior to the start of the SFMNP. Training will be in accordance with SFMNP requirements set forth in 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 249, as well as:
  - a. 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards;
  - b. FNS instructions, policy memoranda, guidance, and other written directives applicable to SFMNP;
  - c. Applicable Texas statutes, laws, rules, and regulations;
  - d. Policies and procedures issued and amended by TDA; and
  - e. Terms and conditions of this Agreement including any approved amendments to the Agreement.

Training will be offered at a time and place that is mutually convenient to the parties.

- 3. Provide technical assistance to CE, as needed. Technical assistance will be in accordance with SFMNP requirements and as set forth above in Article VI. 2 of this Agreement.
- 4. Provide SFMNP services to CE without charge.
- 5. Comply with the Civil Rights and nondiscrimination requirements of the USDA set forth in 7 CFR § 249.7 to ensure that no SFMNP participant is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the SFMNP on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.
- 6. Provide training and monitoring on complying with SFMNP requirements for food and bulk purchases.
- 7. Monitor the CE's issuance of vouchers according to SFMNP requirements during the CE's normal hours of operation.
- 8. Respond to CE inquiries promptly.

9. Reimburse CE for valid vouchers filed in a timely and proper manner in accordance with Article V of this Agreement.

# VII. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONTRACTING ENTITY (CE)

## CE agrees to:

- 1. Operate the SFMNP in accordance with all SFMNP regulations in 7 CFR Part 249, as well as:
  - a. 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards;
  - b. FNS instructions, policy memoranda, guidance, and other written directives applicable to SFMNP;
  - c. Applicable Texas law, statutes, rules, and regulations;
  - d. Policy and procedures as issued and amended by TDA; and
  - e. Other laws described herein.

CE further agrees to operate the SFMNP as described in its application documents, policy statement(s) and supporting documents, and approved amendments to the application or this Agreement.

- 2. Distribute SFMNP vouchers to CE's sub-agencies and other organizations, as applicable. Vouchers may only be used once and are numbered sequentially. Vouchers are worth \$4.00 each, issued in booklets of (5) five vouchers for a total value of \$20.00. Booklets are issued to qualifying SFMNP participants for redemption at qualifying farmers' markets.
- 3. Comply with all SFMNP requirements for receiving, handling, distributing, and redeeming vouchers.
- 4. Ensure that all vouchers are distributed to eligible participants without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.
- 5. Ensure that SFMNP vouchers are redeemed only by participating Farmers' Market Associations (FMA), and within program dates.
- 6. Ensure that no more than fifty (50) percent of SFMNP assigned caseload during the program season is used for bulk purchase option of the program at \_\_\_\_\_\_(CE) applicable location.
- 7. Refuse to validate any SFMNP vouchers from unqualified FMAs.
- 8. Certify the eligibility of SFMNP applicants, as applicable.
- 9. Maintain the confidentiality of applicant and participant information/records to the extent required by law.
- 10. Reconcile SFMNP vouchers by identifying the disposition of all SFMNP vouchers as validly redeemed, lost or stolen, expired, or not matching issuance records.
- 11. Notify SFMNP applicants and participants of their right to a fair hearing, as applicable.
- 12. Allow representatives of TDA and USDA to review its site operations and records.
- 13. Maintain full and complete records concerning SFMNP operations for a minimum of three (3) years following the date of submission of the final expenditure report for the period to which the report pertains, or until all issues involving litigation, claim, negotiation, audit or other action are resolved, whichever is later, as required by 7 CFR Part 249 and state and federal regulations.
- 14. Attend SFMNP training sessions required by TDA.

- 15. Provide SFMNP training to CE's sub-agencies and other organizations, as applicable and as required by TDA.
- 16. Provide SFMNP technical assistance to CE's sub-agencies and other organizations upon request.
- 17. Upon request from TDA, provide all available information through surveys and other methods of feedback, to assist TDA in tracking the impact of the SFMNP on seniors and/or farmers' markets.
- 18. Notify TDA when and if any farmer's market ceases operation prior to the end of the applicable Program Year.
- 19. Upon request from TDA, provide all information to assist TDA in its compilation of annual reports to USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).
- 20. Cooperate fully with TDA monitoring for compliance with SFMNP requirements.
- 21. Promptly report any suspected abuse of or non-compliance with SFMNP requirements and cooperate in any resulting monitoring or investigation.
- 22. Comply with the Civil Rights and nondiscrimination requirements of the USDA as set forth in 7 CFR § 249.7 to ensure that no SFMNP participant is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the SFMNP on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.
- 23. Notify participating FMAs of any violations of SFMNP requirements that require sanctions.
- 24. Sanction participating FMAs for sanctionable violations of SFMNP requirements, as defined in the TDA-issued SFMNP Handbook. Sanctions include disqualification of participation for limited times, depending on the severity of the violation(s).
- 25. Provide TDA with thirty (30) days' written notice if terminating this Agreement without mutual consent.
- 26. Ensure that all available SFMNP vouchers are distributed to participants no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> of the applicable Program Year.
- 27. Submit all claims for reimbursement to TDA no later than December 15<sup>th</sup> of the applicable Program Year.

### VIII. APPEAL PROCEDURES

Both Parties agree to be bound by the following appeal procedures, as defined in this section.

- 1. Actions subject to appeal. Pursuant to 7 CFR § 249.16, the following adverse actions are subject to appeal: (1) denial of certification of SFMNP benefits, unless certification is denied solely because of the lack of sufficient funding to provide SFMNP benefits to all eligible applicants; and (2) disqualification/suspension of SFMNP benefits. A CE may appeal an action of TDA disqualifying it from participating in the SFMNP. A farmer or farmers' market may appeal a TDA action denying its application to participate, imposing a sanction, or disqualifying it from participating in the SFMNP.
- 2. Parties capable of taking adverse action. TDA, each CE administering the program, each sub-distributing agency, and each FMA have the administrative authority to take adverse actions against their respective contracting parties operating the SFMNP. In the event that any adverse action taken by any entity participating in the SFMNP in Texas is subject to appeal, TDA will control and conduct the subsequent hearing, as defined herein.
- 3. Actions not subject to appeal. Pursuant to 7 CFR § 249.16, expiration of a contract or Agreement to participate in SFMNP is not subject to appeal.

- 4. Notice of adverse action. Any entity taking an adverse action shall issue a written notice. Such notice shall: (1) state the cause for the action; (2) state the effective date of the action; (3) state whether the adverse action will be postponed until a decision in the appeal is made, if the adverse action is appealed; and (4) state the procedure for requesting a hearing. This written notification of the adverse action must be provided to the entity or participant not less than fifteen (15) calendar days in advance of the effective date of the action.
- 5. Opportunity to reschedule. Pursuant to 7 CFR § 249.16, each appellant shall be provided at least one opportunity to reschedule the hearing date upon specific request to TDA. Only one such rescheduling opportunity will be provided by TDA.
- 6. Appeal procedures. A party wishing to appeal an adverse action must make a written request for appeal within thirty (30) days from the date on which the notice of action is received. The written appeal request must clearly identify the action being appealed and include a photocopy of the notice of action. TDA will acknowledge the receipt of the request for an appeal within ten (10) days of its receipt of the appeal request and state in this written notice TDA's determination of whether the action shall be postponed pending outcome of the appeal.
- 7. Submission of requests for appeal:
  - 1 Requests for appeal may be mailed or faxed to: Texas Department of Agriculture, Legal Division, Attn: Docket Clerk; PO Box 12847; Austin, Texas; 78711; Fax Number (800) 909-8530.
  - 2 Requests for appeal may be sent via overnight delivery service to: Texas Department of Agriculture, Legal Division, Attn: Docket Clerk; 1700 North Congress, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor; Austin, Texas, 78701.
- 8. Review of record. The case record must be available for review prior to the hearing.
- 9. <u>Hearing.</u> TDA will conduct the hearing within thirty (30) days of receiving the appeal request, unless an additional seven (7) days is needed to accommodate one permitted request to reschedule a hearing. Both parties shall be provided with the opportunity to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses; the opportunity to be represented by counsel, or in the case of an appeal filed by an SFMNP participant, by a representative designated by the participant, if desired.
- 10. <u>Postponement pending decision.</u> Pursuant to the provisions of 7 CFR § 249.16(c), an adverse action may, at TDA's option, be postponed until a decision is rendered in the appeal.
- 11. <u>Decision.</u> An impartial decision maker will render a written determination on the outcome of the appeal, such decision being based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing and the statutory and regulatory provisions governing the SFMNP. TDA shall issue a written determination on the outcome of the appeal to all parties no later than sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the request for an appeal by TDA. The determination issued by TDA is the final administrative determination to be afforded to an appellant.

#### IX. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Any delegation by CE to a third party of any of the duties and responsibilities imposed by this Agreement shall not relieve CE of its responsibility to TDA for the proper performance of this Agreement. CE cannot subcontract or assign any of its duties under this Agreement without advance written notice to TDA and prior written approval of TDA, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. CE will include all provisions that may be necessary to accomplish

all requirements of this Agreement in its employment policies and contracts and subcontracts, and shall require its subcontractors to do the same.

- 2. Records, Reports, Audits, and Contract Monitoring:
  - **2.1**: CE agrees to retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to this Agreement for a period of three (3) years, which includes the current year, with one qualification: If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the 3-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved. The retention period starts from the date of the submission of the final expenditure report.
  - **2.2**: Upon request, either party shall make all records, books, papers, documents, or recordings related to this Agreement available for inspection, audit, or reproduction during normal business hours to the Comptroller General of the United States, Texas State Auditor, and any authorized representative of the other party.
  - **2.3**: TDA and CE agree that the services provided under this Agreement shall be classified as Contracted Services for financial reporting purposes.
- 3. CE understands that acceptance of funds under this Agreement acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office (SAO), or any successor agency, to conduct an investigation in connection with those funds. CE further agrees to cooperate fully with the SAO or its successor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. CE will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through CE and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards.
- 4. Information, documentation, and other material in connection with this Agreement may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code (the "Public Information Act" or "TPIA"). Client data of either party that may be provided to the other party in connection with this Agreement may be confidential by law and, therefore, excepted from disclosure under the TPIA. Each party is responsible for complying with the TPIA. Information may not be withheld without seeking a determination from The Office of the Attorney General for the State of Texas (OAG). In the event either Party receives a request for information relating to this Agreement, the Party will promptly notify the other Party so that either party may assert any TPIA exception it believes applicable. The OAG determines if information is excepted from disclosure under the TPIA. If TDA receives a request under the TPIA for information provided by a third party that may be subject to an exception under the act, TDA may request the OAG to make a determination of whether the information is exempt from disclosure and shall make a good faith attempt to notify the third party of the request for the OAG decision. TDA's notice to the third party will be in writing and sent within a reasonable time not later than the 10th business day after the date TDA receives the request for the information. The notice will include a copy of the written request for the information, if any, received by TDA and a statement, in the form prescribed by the OAG, that the person is entitled to submit in writing to the OAG within a reasonable time not later than the 10th business day after the date the person receives the notice: (i) each reason the person has as to why the information should be withheld; and (ii) a letter, memorandum, or brief in support of that reason. A person who submits a letter, memorandum, or brief to the OAG shall send a copy of that letter, memorandum, or brief to the person who requested the

information from TDA. If the letter, memorandum, or brief submitted to the OAG contains the substance of the information requested, the copy of the letter, memorandum, or brief may be a redacted copy.

- 5. Technology Requirements for Confidentiality: The CE hereby agrees to implement the following information technology standards to ensure the confidentiality of participant information.
  - 5.1 Network Security: CE agrees to maintain network security which includes the use of a firewall, unique user names and passwords to access network resources. CE agrees to provide maintenance of a secure processing environment, and acknowledges that this includes but is not limited to the timely application of patches, fixes and updates to operating systems and applications.
  - **5.2** Data Security: CE agrees to preserve the confidentiality, integrity, and accessibility of TDA data in motion or at rest with administrative, technical, and physical measures that conform to generally recognized industry standards and best practices.
  - 5.3 Data Storage: CE agrees that any and all TDA data will be stored, processed and maintained solely on designated computers/servers and that no TDA data will be transferred to any portable or laptop computing device or any portable storage medium, unless that device or storage medium is in use as part of the CE's designated backup and recovery processes and encrypted in accordance with the Data Encryption provision below.
  - 5.4 Data Transmission: CE agrees that any and all electronic transmission or exchange of system and application data with TDA shall take place via secure means (HTTPS or SFTP or equivalent).
  - 5.5 Data Encryption: CE agrees to store all TDA data in encrypted form, using a commercially supported encryption solution. CE further agrees that any and all TDA data defined as personally identifiable information under the regulations is likewise encrypted. Encryption solutions will be deployed with no less than a 128-bit key.
  - 5.6 Data Re-Use: CE agrees that any and all data exchanged shall be used expressly and solely for the purposes enumerated in the Agreement. Data shall not be distributed, repurposed or shared across other applications, environments or business units of CE. CE further agrees that no TDA data of any kind shall be transmitted, exchanged or otherwise passed to other vendors or interested parties except as specifically required to operate the SFMNP on a need to know basis. Any other release of information requires specific agreement in writing by TDA.
  - 5.7 End of Agreement Data Handling: Notwithstanding the recordkeeping and retention requirements in Article IX. 2 of this Agreement CE agrees that upon termination of the Agreement it shall erase, destroy and render unrecoverable all TDA data and certify in writing that these actions have been completed within thirty (30) days of termination of this agreement or within seven (7) days of the request of an authorized TDA official, whichever comes first. The conditions in this paragraph apply only to TDA-provided data
  - **5.8** Security Breach Notification:
    - **5.8.1** CE agrees to comply with all applicable laws that require the notification of individuals in the event of unauthorized release of personal identification information or other event requiring notification.
    - **5.8.2** In the event of a breach of any of CE's security obligations or other event requiring notification under applicable law, CE agrees to notify the following individuals:

Information Security Officer Texas Department of Agriculture 800-835-5832

Assistant Commissioner Food and Nutrition Division Texas Department of Agriculture 877-839-6325

- 6. CE employees, interns, volunteers, subcontractors, and all other individuals involved in providing services under this Agreement do not have an employer-employee relationship with TDA. TDA shall not be responsible for the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) payments, federal or state unemployment taxes, income tax withholding, Workers Compensation Insurance payments, or any other insurance payments, nor will TDA furnish any medical or retirement benefits, any paid vacation, any sick leave, or any other benefit paid to or on behalf of CE.
- 7. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties with relation to the transaction. There have been and are no covenants, agreements, representations, warranties, or restrictions between the parties related to the transaction other than those specifically set forth in this Agreement.
- 8. If one or more of the provisions of this Agreement is held invalid, unenforceable, or illegal in any respect, the remainder of the Agreement and its application to the parties shall remain valid and in full force and effect.
- 9. Both parties affirm that the persons signing this Agreement are authorized to bind the respective parties.
- 10. No waiver, whether expressed or implied, shall be construed as a continuing waiver unless it is specifically described in writing as a continuing waiver.
- 11. "Time is of the Essence" will apply to all time limits stated in the Agreement.
- 12. This Agreement shall be interpreted according to the laws of the State of Texas except as may be otherwise provided for in this Agreement. Venue shall be in Travis County, Texas.
- 13. This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement signed by TDA and CE.
- 14. Both parties affirm that the persons signing this Agreement are authorized to bind the respective parties.

#### X. DISQUALIFICATIONS/SANCTIONS

- CE shall be aware that fraud, misuse of program funds and/or data, or deliberate diversion of SFMNP funds from SFMNP purposes may be considered by TDA to be a sanctionable violation of SFMNP requirements.
- 2. CE may be subject to sanctions for any SFMNP abuse or violation of SFMNP requirements. The sanction may include any one or a combination of the following: (1) disqualification not to exceed one year; (2) repayment of funds; (3) monetary penalty.
- 3. TDA may deny payment for improperly handled SFMNP vouchers.
- 4. TDA shall notify CE in writing, fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the disqualification effective date. TDA maintains no obligation to reinstate CE's authorization after disqualification. CE must reapply to participate in the SFMNP.
- 5. A CE who commits fraud or abuse of the SFMNP is liable for prosecution under applicable federal, State, or local laws.

#### XI. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS

CE acknowledges and certifies:

- 1. Annual payment of Texas franchise taxes is current, if CE is subject to the State of Texas franchise tax. A false statement regarding franchise tax status shall be treated as a material breach of this Agreement and may be grounds for termination of this Agreement at the option of TDA. If franchise tax payments become delinquent during the Agreement term, payments under this Agreement will be held until the CE's delinquent franchise tax is paid in full.
- 2. That neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in this Agreement by any federal department or agency or by the State of Texas. CE shall immediately provide written notice to the TDA if at any time the CE learns that this certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. CE may rely upon a certification of a subcontractor that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered contract, unless it knows or has reason to know that the certification is erroneous.

CE also specifically asserts that it does not owe a single substantial debt or a number of outstanding debts to a federal or state agency. A false statement regarding the CE's status will be treated as a material breach of this contract and may be grounds for termination of this Agreement at the option of TDA.

- 3. Understanding of and compliance with the following:
  - a. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the CE, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
  - b. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the CE shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
  - c. The CE shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
  - d. CE understands that this certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.
- 4. Committing fraud or abuse of the SFMNP may subject the CE to criminal prosecution under applicable federal, state or local laws, in addition to sanctions imposed by TDA.
- 5. The CE's suspension or disqualification from any other Food and Nutrition Service Program may result in an automatic suspension or disqualification from the SFMNP.
- 6. Compliance with drug-free workplace requirements in 2 CFR Part 421, which adopts the Government-wide implementation (2 CFR Part 182) of sec. 5152-5158 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701-707).
- 7. CE agrees to use any information that is received in its capacity as a contractor to the TDA whether written or oral, formal or informal for the following purposes only:
  - a. To provide services and/or deliverables required or requested under this Agreement;
  - b. To provide advice, opinion or recommendation requested by the TDA in the course of fulfilling the duties prescribed under this Agreement;
  - c. To assist the TDA in developing any documents, reports, working papers, evaluations, schedules, or instructions necessary to fulfill the requirements of this Agreement.

CE further agrees to regard any such information as confidential and shall not disclose, reveal, communicate, impart or divulge the information of any summary or synopsis of the information in any manner or any form whatsoever, except under the following circumstances:

- a. When authorized in writing by the TDA:
- b. When required by court order, subpoena, or ruling of the Attorney General of Texas:
- c. When advised by legal counsel that disclosure is required by law or legal process;
- d. When the information has previously been released to the general public by the TDA;
- e. When required to brief or inform a superior, provided the superior is informed of nondisclosure requirements.

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8. Compliance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Department of Agriculture nondiscrimination regulations (7 CFR Parts 15, 15a and 15b), and FNS Instructions as outlined in 7 CFR § 249.7.

We, the undersigned, do hereby make and enter into this Agreement. This Agreement contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties. CE certifies that the information contained in this document is true and correct to the best of its knowledge and is provided for the purpose of obtaining federal assistance. CE agrees to comply with the SFMNP federal regulations, and state policies and procedures as issued and amended by TDA. CE understands that the deliberate misrepresentation or withholding of information may result in prosecution under applicable state and federal statutes.

| Name and Title of Cor<br>Official: | ntracting Entity | Signature of Contracting Entity Official: |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| ☐ Approved                         | ☐ Denied         | Denial Justification:                     |
| Name of TDA Represe                | entative:        | Title of TDA Representative:              |
| Signature of TDA Rep               | resentative:     |   |