

Farm to School (Skidmore) Producer Needs Assessment Survey
* Adapted from Cornell's Farm To School Toolkit

Date:

Producer Name:

Email:

1. Have you supplied food to any local schools? YES _____ NO _____
 - a. If YES, to which school(s) did you supply food? What foods did they buy from you?

2. What worked and what could have been better?

3. Did any distributors help get your product from the farm to a local school?

4. As far as you know, would requirements for insurance be a barrier for you?
Please explain:

5. Are you able to deliver to Skidmore (or other nearby institutions)? Yes No
 - a. If yes, How far are you able/willing to travel to make deliveries to Skidmore (or other nearby institutions)?

6. Are you able to do any quality grading, washing, and packing? YES _____ NO _____
 - a. If YES: Which foods and what time of year?

7. What is the typical seasonal availability of your products? Do you store any product after the growing season?

8. Do you have a flexible farm plan? (i.e. would you be able to augment what – or how much – you currently grow if it meant access to the Skidmore market?)
YES _____ NO _____
Please explain:

9. If you could diversify or expand your production, what would you add to what you're currently doing?

10. Have you considered pursuing GAP certification? Why or why not?

11. Would you be interested in growing for Skidmore? YES _____ NO _____
Please explain:

12. Are you able to be flexible in working out a payment schedule to work with Skidmore?
YES _____ NO _____
Please explain:

13. Can you share with us a price list of your products?
YES _____ NO _____
If yes, we will contact you with an email or please share with sustainability@skidmore.edu.

14. Are you interested in a gathering of local farmers, distributors, and food service directors/ restaurant owners etc. in order to build partnerships and expand the market for local foods?

- a. Very Interested
- b. Somewhat Interested
- c. Not Interested
- d. If Interested, when would be the best time for you?
 - i. During NOFA's Winter Conference as a regional or local workshop
 - ii. Day after NOFA's Winter Conference
 - iii. Day before NOFA's Winter Conference
 - iv. November, December, January, February, March
 - v. Weekend or Weekday?

15. What can institutions like Skidmore do (how can we change our practices) to meet the needs of small-scale and/or local farms like yours? (E.g. educational programming about local food systems, outreach and communications, investing in distribution facilities etc.).

16. What can farmers do meet the needs of large buyers like Skidmore - do you think that farmers need to change practices for this kind of partnership to work? (E.g. Set aside land to grow wholesale specifically for a couple of buyers, attend planning meetings/calls with large buyers and/or their distributors over winter to organize what to grow and how much etc.)