

Go for the Challenge Grant

The Florida Department of Education, Food and Nutrition Management announces the ***Go For the Challenge*** grant opportunity. Twenty-five elementary schools across the state will be awarded up to \$8,000 each to promote a healthy school environment while an additional 20 middle schools will be awarded \$1,000 each.

Elementary School Awards:

- Elementary schools will be provided comprehensive, site-specific technical assistance to achieve positive change in their schools' nutrition (food served on campus, nutrition education) and physical activity environments.
- Schools will be evaluated on the following:
 - Innovative approaches
 - Positive impact on students, staff, schools
 - Replicable best practices
 - Sustainable models

Middle School Awards:

- Middle schools will demonstrate the capacity to build an infrastructure for a sustainable school-based *Student Wellness Advisory Council (SWAC)*. A *Student Wellness Advisory Council, or SWAC*, is a student organization whose advisor is a school food service professional. The goal of the program is to bring or expand a nutrition and wellness program in middle schools where the students learn nutrition and wellness information and then teach that information to their fellow peers and community.

* The Florida Department of Education, Office of Food and Nutrition Management was awarded \$349,920 in Team Nutrition funding on September 1, 2009, by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. Florida was among 18 states awarded Team Nutrition funding to help children develop good nutrition and physical activity habits for healthier lifestyles.

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