

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions have been submitted concerning Bid#201102, Miscellaneous Fruits & Vegetables – Frozen, Canned & Packaged. All questions received have been answered, and are provided verbatim from what was received:

BIDDER QUESTION#1: In response to Bid No. 201102 (Miscellaneous Fruit & Vegetables – Frozen, Canned, and Packaged), I have a question about whether our products would be a good fit for the Escambia County School District. Our products, EasyPeasie Veggie Blends, are unique and typically do not fall under standard categories. The Blends are combinations of mild-flavored, dried and ground vegetables that can be added to many foods, including sauces, pizza, meatballs, soups, tacos, macaroni and cheese, etc.

- EasyPeasie, LLC is an owner- women- minority- operated business focused on helping kids and picky eaters learn to love veggies.
- Our EasyPeasie Veggie Blends are all-natural, mild flavored, dried and ground vegetables that add veggie flavors to foods kids already like.
- We balance the vegetables in our Blends (peas, carrots, kale, beets and more!) for maximum nutrition and palate-pleasing taste.
- Businesses and programs cooking for large groups love the shelf-stable nature, minimal food waste, and ease of use of EasyPeasie Veggie Blends.
- We have discussed with the USDA that when added to dishes that have "recognizable vegetables," EasyPeasie can be counted as extra vegetables in that dish. In example, if there are 2 tablespoons of recognizable veggies in a serving of marinara sauce, adding 1 tablespoon of EasyPeasie now makes that a "3 tablespoon of veggies" dish!
- 25 lb. bulk packaging is available.

Bid items should match the listed specifications. If not, the District will need to do sample quality and taste testing on all alternate products. Vendors can submit sample items during the open bid process. If a bid is not posted, vendors can make an appointment with Ms. Sophie Goykins, Dietitian-Food Services Dept., to discuss their product(s). If an alternate product is approved, it will be listed on the product approved list on the next bid solicitation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (CONT.)

Bid#201102 – Miscellaneous Fruit and Vegetables – Frozen, Canned, and Packaged

BIDDER QUESTION#2: I sent full case samples on line item products below on bid # 191302 Our House Brand. I'm currently delivering Fruit Mix and vegetarian beans thou Our House does not say Approved brand from same bid. Can you please confirm that line item product DO NOT require a sample to be sent.

Line item # 7, Garbanzo Beans
Line item # 9, Pumpkin, Canned
Line item # 13, Sweet Potato
Line item # 18, Fruit Mix
Line item # 20, Peaches Diced
Line item #21, Beans Vegetarian

Per our records, a sample for each item will be required.

BIDDER QUESTION#3: Question on the Fruit & Vegetable bid # 201102, back on another bid 191302 we were approved on the Bush's Low Sodium. Are you looking for regular sodium black beans, #201102 does not give a sodium count.

The sodium level needs to be low. It should be no higher than 140 mg per ½ cup serving in order to meet daily sodium requirements.

BIDDER QUESTION#4: In regards the above Bid, can you please advise if the District requires multiple deliveries, weekly or monthly or if it will accept the total amount in one delivery. If multiple deliveries, can you please advise the minimum pallet order requirement.

The District typically has one delivery date per purchase order. The vendor must indicate a minimum order quantity per pallet for delivery on their bid response.

BIDDER QUESTION#5: I noticed that the spec for item 1, Fruit Cup Mixed state a 4 oz serving. I just wanted to point out that a 4.5 oz. fruit cup is needed to meet the full half cup fruit requirement. I attached one of our PFS for reference.

Based on the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, a 4 oz. serving of fruit cups = ½ cup fruit credit.