

# OP 8: Food Recovery

## Rationale

This credit recognizes institutions with dining programs that divert surplus food and organic waste from disposal through recovery operations and that track and assess their food and organic materials management efforts to inform ongoing improvements.

## Applicability

Applicable to institutions with dining services operated by the institution or a contracted food service management company.

## Points available

A maximum of 2 points are available for this credit.

## Criteria

### 8.1 Food recovery program

An institution earns 2 points when its dining services A) donate surplus food on at least a monthly basis, divert B) pre-consumer (back of house) and C) post-consumer (front of house) food **waste** from **disposal** for processing and use as animal feed, compost, and/or biofuel, and D) track and assess their food and organic materials management efforts on at least an annual basis to inform ongoing improvements. Partial points are available and earned as outlined in Table V.

Table V. Points earned for indicator 8.1

Criterion	Points available	Points earned
A. Institution donates surplus food to a food redistribution program on at least a monthly basis when its dining services are operational.	0.5	
B. Institution's dining services divert pre-consumer food waste from disposal for processing and use as animal feed, compost, and/or biofuel.	0.5	
C. Institution's dining services divert post-consumer food waste from disposal for processing and use as animal feed, compost, and/or biofuel.	0.5	
D. Institution's dining services track and assess their food and organic materials management efforts (e.g., source reduction and/or	0.5	

recovery) on at least an annual basis to inform ongoing improvements.		
Total points earned →		

## Measurement

Report on current dining service programs and practices and activities from within the previous three years.

Appropriate tools to support food and organic materials management assessments include food waste audits and competitions such as Campus Race to Zero Waste (Food Organics category), green dining certification programs that address food recovery, and food waste tracking and benchmarking systems.

## Documentation

Report the following information in the online Reporting Tool:

- Does the institution donate surplus food to a food redistribution program on at least a monthly basis when its dining services are operational? (required)

*If Yes, the following field is also required:*

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution’s surplus food donation program

- Do the institution’s dining services divert pre-consumer food waste from disposal for processing and use as animal feed, compost, and/or biofuel? (required)

*If Yes, the following field is also required:*

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution’s pre-consumer food waste diversion program

- Do the institution’s dining services divert post-consumer food waste from disposal for processing and use as animal feed, compost, and/or biofuel? (required)

*If Yes, the following field is also required:*

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution’s post-consumer food waste diversion program

- Do the institution’s dining services track and assess their food and organic materials management efforts on at least an annual basis to inform ongoing improvements? (required)

*If Yes, the following field is also required:*

- Narrative and/or website URL providing an overview of the institution’s food and organic materials management tracking and assessment initiatives

## Glossary

**Disposal** – The end-of-life management of discarded products, materials, and resources in a sink or through a chemical or thermal transformation that makes these products, materials, and resources unavailable for further use (e.g., incineration and landfilling). Disposal includes any operation which is not **recovery**, even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the recovery of energy.

[Adapted from the definitions used by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the European Union (EU) Waste Framework Directive.]

**Recovery** – Any operation wherein products, components of products, or materials that have become waste are prepared to fulfill a purpose in place of new products, components, or materials that would otherwise have been used for that purpose. Preparation for reuse and recycling are examples of recovery operations. In the context of waste reporting, recovery operations do not include energy recovery. [Adapted from the definition used by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).]

**Waste** – Any substance or object which the institution discards, intends to discard, or is required to discard. This includes materials that are disposed of and materials that are diverted from disposal through recovery operations. [Adapted from the definition used by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).]