

Students enrolled and attending school in the school district who meet the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) eligibility guidelines will be provided the school nutrition program services at no cost or at a reduced price. The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

The district shall at least twice annually notify all families of the availability, eligibility criteria, and application procedures for free and reduced-price meals in accordance with state and federal law.

It is the responsibility of the Food Service Director to determine the eligibility students for free or reduced price school nutrition programs, in accordance with criteria established by state and federal law. If school personnel have knowledge of a student who is in need of free or reduced-price meals, school personnel shall contact the Food Service Director.

Students who participate in free or reduced price nutrition programs will not be distinguished in any way from students who pay the regular price and care will be taken to protect the anonymity of these students. Their names will not be made known to any person except such staff member or members as needed to make the special arrangements for them.

If a student owes money the Food Service Director may contact the student's parent or guardian to provide information regarding the application for free or reduced price meals. The school is encouraged to provide reimbursable meals to students who request reimbursable meals unless the students' parent or guardian has specifically provided written direction to the school to withhold a meal from the student.

Employees will be required to pay for meals consumed.

***NOTE: This is a mandatory policy.***

Date of Adoption: 1967

Reviewed and Amended: 5/10/93; 11/22/99; 2/24/14; 10/22/18; 12/16/24