

Free And Reduced Price Meals

The district's plan for students receiving free or reduced price meals shall set forth the following conditions: (Education Code 49557, 49557.2)

1. The names of the students shall not be published, posted or announced in any manner, or used for any other purpose other than the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.
2. There shall be no overt identification of any of the students by the use of special tokens or tickets or by any other means.
3. The students shall not be required to work for their meals or milk.
4. The students shall not be required to use a separate dining area, go through a separate entrance, or consume their meals or milk at a different time.
5. When more than one lunch, breakfast or type of milk is offered, the students shall have the same choice of meals or milk as is available to those students who pay the full price.

This plan shall be submitted to the California Department of Education for approval. (Education Code 49557)

Applications

An application form for free or reduced price meals shall be distributed to all parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year, together with information about eligibility standards, application procedures and appeal procedures. This form and information shall also be provided whenever a new student is enrolled. (Education Code 49520, 48980)

Applications for free or reduced price meal programs shall be available to students at all times during the regular school day and shall contain the following statements: (Education Code 49557)

The application packet also shall contain:

1. A notification that, if a student qualifies for free or reduced price meals, then he/she may qualify for free or reduced -cost health insurance coverage.
2. A request for the applicant's consent for student to participate in the Medi-Cal program, if eligible for free school meals, and to have the information on the school meal application shared with the local agency that determines eligibility under the Medi-Cal program.
3. A notification that the district will not forward the application to the agency that determines the Medi-Cal eligibility without the parent/guardian's consent.

4. A notification that the application is confidential and, with the exception of forwarding the information for use in health program enrollment, will not be shared with any other government agency for any purpose other than the administration of the Medi-Cal program.

5. A notification that the application information will be used only by the state and local agencies that administer the Medi-Cal program and will not be shared with any governmental agency, including Immigration and Naturalization Services and the Social Security Administration, except as necessary to verify information provided by the applicant.

6. Information regarding the Medi-Cal program, including available services program requirements, rights, and responsibility, and privacy and confidentiality requirements.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

7. Applications for free or reduced price meals may be submitted at any time during a school day.

8. Children participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs will not be overtly identified by the use of special tokens, special tickets, special serving lines, separate entrances, separate dining areas, or by any other means.

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free or reduced price meal program shall be confidential. They shall be open to examination only for purposes of this program or for any investigation, prosecution, or criminal or civil proceeding conducted in connection with the administration of any free and reduced price meal program. (Education Code 49558)

The Governing Board designates the following employees to use individual records pertaining to students participation in the free or reduced price meals program solely for the purpose of disaggregation of academic achievement.

Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment

In using these records for that purpose, the following conditions shall be satisfied: (Education Code 49558)

1. No individual indicators of participation in the free or reduced price meal program shall be maintained in the permanent records of any students if not otherwise allowed by law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

2. Information regarding individual student participation in the free or reduced price meal program shall not be publicly released.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

3. All other confidentiality provisions required by law shall be met.

Regulation FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: January 14, 1999 Fresno, California