

Free And Reduced Price Meals

The Board recognizes that some families may be unable to provide breakfast and lunch for their children and that adequate nutrition is essential to the development, health, and learning of all students. In accordance with law, the district shall provide free and reduced price meals for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria. The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate and encourage the participation of students from low-income families in the district's food service program.

(cf. 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund)
(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development Programs)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6177 - Summer School)

The district shall provide at least one nutritionally adequate meal each school day, free of charge or at a reduced price, for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria. (Education Code 49550, 49552)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that meals provided through the free and reduced-price meals program meet applicable state and /or federal nutritional standards in accordance with law, Board Policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 3550 – Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend for Board approval and shall submit to the California Department of Education, a plan which ensures that eligible students who receive free or reduced-price meals are not treated differently from other students. (Education Code 49557)(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Confidentiality/Release of Records

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free and reduced-price meals program shall be confidential except as provided by law. (Education Code 49558)

If a student transfers from the district to another district or to a private school, the Superintendent or designee may release the student's eligibility status or a copy of his/her free and reduced-price meal application to the other district or school to assist in the continuation of the student's meal benefits.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for the free and reduced-price meal program solely for the purpose of:
(Education Code 49558)

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data
2. In any school identified as a Title I program improvement school pursuant to 20 USC 6316, identification of students eligible for school choice and supplemental educational services

(cf. 0520.2 -Title I Program Improvement Schools)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

The Board further authorizes the release of information on the school lunch program application to the local agency that determines Medi-Cal program eligibility, provided that the student is approved for free meals and the parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information in accordance with Education Code 49557.2.

(cf. 5141.6 – School-Based Health and Social Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48980 Notice at beginning of term
49430-49436 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
49510-49520 Nutrition
49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act of 1974
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service
49550-49560 Meals for needy students

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act
6301-6514 Title I programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j School lunch program
1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:
1773 School breakfast program

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
220.10-220.21 National School Breakfast Program
245.1-245.13 Determination of eligibility for free and reduced price meals

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Nutrition Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):
<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd>

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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