

LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policy 3553

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Free and Reduced Price Meals

The Board of Education recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to the development, health, and learning of all students. The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate and encourage the participation of students from low-income families in the district's food service program.

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.

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.

The Board shall approve, and shall submit to the California Department of Education for approval, a plan that ensures that students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals and milk are not treated differently from other students.

Confidentiality / Release of Records

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free or reduced price meal program shall be confidential and may not be released except as provided by law and authorized by the Board or pursuant to a court order.

The Board authorizes designated employees to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for any free and reduced price meal program for the following purposes:

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data;
2. Identification of students eligible for alternative supports in any school identified as a Title I program improvement school.

If a student transfers from the district to another district, charter school, county office of education program, or private school, the Superintendent or designee may share the student's meal eligibility information to the other educational agency to assist in the continuation of the student's meal benefits.

The Superintendent or designee may release the name and eligibility status of a student participating in the free or reduced-price meal program to another school district, charter school, or county office of education that is serving a student living in the same household for purposes related to program eligibility and data used in local control funding formula calculations.

The Superintendent or designee may release the name and eligibility status of a student participating in the free or reduced-price meal program to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for purposes of determining allocations under the local control funding formula and for assessing accountability of that funding.

The Superintendent or designee may release information on the school lunch program application to the local agency that determines eligibility for participation in the Medi-Cal program if the student has been approved for free meals or, if included in the agreement with the local agency, for reduced-price meals. He/she also may release information on the school lunch application to the local agency that determines eligibility for CalFresh or another nutrition assistance program authorized under 7 CFR 210.1 if the student has been approved for free or reduced-price meals. Information may be released for these purposes only if the student's parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information and the district has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the local agency which, at a minimum, includes the roles and responsibilities of the district and local agency and the process for sharing the information. After sharing information with the local agency for purposes of determining eligibility for that program, no further information shall be shared unless otherwise authorized by law.

Legal References: EDUCATION CODE
 48980 Notice at beginning of term
 49430-49434 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

49550-49562 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

1751-1769 National lunch programs

1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:

1773 School breakfast program

(cf. 5125 – Student Records)

(cf. 6162.51 – Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

(cf. 6171 – Title I Programs)

(cf. 6190 – Evaluation of the Instructional 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 and free milk

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

14005.41 Basic health care

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies, 2012

Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, 2012

NSD SNP-12-2015 Updated Guidance on Sharing of School Meal

Applications and the Passing of Assembly Bill 1599, July 2015

USDA-SNP-07-2010 Change in Free and Reduced-Price Meal

Application Approval Process, September 2010

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Feed More Kids, Improve Program Participation

Direct Certification Implementation Checklist, May 2008

USDA PUBLICATIONS

Eligibility Manual for School Meals: Determining and Verifying

Eligibility, July 2015

Provision 2 Guidance: National School Lunch and School Breakfast

Programs, Summer 2002

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Nutrition Services

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

adopted: 03/13/69

revised: 09/09/72

revised: 11/18/86

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revised: 02/07/12

revised: 09/18/12

revised: 02/20/18