

Owatonna Public Schools
Nutrition Services
515 W. Bridge St
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-444-8629
Fax 507-444-8699
kmcintyre@isd761.org

Dear Licensed Medical Provider,

In recent years, we have seen increasing emphasis on the importance of ensuring that children with disabilities have the same opportunities as other children to receive an education and education-related benefits, such as school meals. Subsequently, Congress has passed several comprehensive Acts or laws, which broaden and extend civil rights protections for Americans with disabilities. One result of these laws is an increase in the number of children with disabilities who are being educated in regular school programs. In some cases, the disability may prevent the child from eating meals prepared for the general school population.

USDA regulations (7 CFR 15b) require substitutions or modifications in school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diets. A child with a disability that restricts his or her diet must receive food substitutions when a statement signed by a licensed medical physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse (e.g. certified nurse practitioner) supports that need (USDA 7 CFR 210.10). The medical provider's statement must identify:

- ✓ The allergen(s) or food(s) to be avoided
- ✓ Explanation of how exposure to the allergen(s)/food(s) affects the child
- ✓ The food(s) to be omitted from the child's diet and the food or choice of foods that must be substituted

Enclosed is a blank special diet statement for you to complete for a student currently enrolled in one of our schools. The form must be completed in its entirety and signed by you.

Please contact me at 507-444-8629 if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Krissy McIntyre
Coordinator, Nutrition Services
Owatonna Public Schools, ISD 761

**Please return this form no
later than August 16 to:**
Owatonna Public Schools
Nutrition Services
515 W Bridge St.
Owatonna, MN 55060