

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 well-being, and learning of all students. The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate and encourage the participation of all students in the District's food service program.

Each school day, the District shall provide, free of charge, a nutritionally adequate breakfast and lunch, for any students who requests a meal. (Education Code 49501.5 )

To provide optimal nutrition and ensure that schools receive maximum federal meal reimbursement, the Superintendent or designee shall assess the eligibility of district schools to operate a federal universal meal service provision, such as Provision 2 of the Community Eligibility Provision, pursuant to 42 USC 1759a. The Superintendent or designee shall submit an application to operate a federal universal meal provision to the California Department of Education (CDE) on behalf of any district school that meets the definition of a "high poverty school." (Education Code 49564.3)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that meals served under the school nutrition 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 are not treated differently from other students and that meets other requirements specified in Education Code 49557.

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free and reduced-price meals program shall be confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided by law and authorized by the Board or pursuant to a court order. (Education Code 49558)

The Board authorizes designated employees to use records pertaining to an individual student's eligibility for the free and reduced-price meals program for the following purposes: (Education Code 49558)

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data
2. Identification of students eligible for services under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act pursuant to 20 USC 6301-6576
3. Facilitation of targeted educational services and supports to individual students based on the local control accountability plan

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 with the other educational agency to assist that other educational

agency in ensuring that the student continues to receive school meals.

The Superintendent or designee may release the name and eligibility status of a student participating in the free and 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 (LCFF) calculations. (Education Code 49558)

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 LCFF and for assessing accountability of that funding. (Education Code 49558)

The Superintendent or designee may release 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, or, if included in the agreement with the local agency, for reduced price meals and the parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information in accordance with Education Code 49557.2.

In addition, information on the school lunch program application may be released to the local agency that determines eligibility for participation in the CalFresh program or other nutrition assistance program authorized under 7 CFR 210.1, provided the student whose information is to be released is approved for free or reduced-price meals and his/her parent/guardian consents to the sharing of the information. Prior to releasing information to any such local agency, the Superintendent or designee and the local agency shall enter into a memorandum of understanding that, at a minimum, shall include the roles and responsibilities of the District and the local agency, the process for sharing the information, and a statement that the local agency may use the information only for purposes directly related to the enrollment of families in the CalFresh or other nutrition assistance program. (Education Code 49557.3, 49558)

(Legal References next page)

State Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

- 48980 Parent Guardian Notifications
- 49430-49434 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
- 49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
- 49500-49505 School meals
- 49501.5 California Universal Meals Program
- 49510-49520 Nutrition
- 49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act of 1974
- 49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service
- 49550-49564.5 Meals for needy students
- 49564.3 High-poverty schools; universal meal service

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

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

Federal Legal References:

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
- 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 and free milk