

Civil Rights Complaint Procedure for School Nutrition Program

In accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the district is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any school nutrition program.

A participant in the district's school nutrition program who alleges discrimination on the basis of any of the above-listed federally-protected classes has the right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discrimination, in accordance with this procedure.

Filing a complaint

If an individual has an unlawful discrimination complaint concerning his or her participation in a school nutrition program, the complaint may be directed to the, Director of Nutrition Services, 425 W. Alabama Ave., Fountain, CO 80817 (719) 382-1333.

Complaints may be made verbally (in person or over the phone) or may be submitted in writing to the district contact listed above. Complaints may be filed anonymously.

When filing a complaint, the following information will be requested:

1. complainant's name, address and telephone number (unless the complainant wishes to remain anonymous);
2. the nature of the incident or action that led the complainant to feel discrimination was a factor;
3. the basis on which the complainant believes discrimination exists;
4. the names, telephone numbers, titles and business or personal addresses of persons who may have knowledge of the alleged discriminatory action; and
5. the date(s) during which the alleged discriminatory action(s) occurred.

Forwarding a complaint

Upon 90 days of the district's receipt of the complaint, the district shall forward the complaint as soon as possible, but no later than five business days, to the following agency:

CDE Office of School Nutrition
1580 Logan Street Suite 760
Denver, CO 80205

USDA Office of Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Rm 1095-
S, Stop 0206
Washington, DC 20250
(or emailed to program.intake@usda.gov)

USDA Mountain Plains Regional Office
1244 Speer Blvd Suite 903
Denver, CO 80204

FNS Office of Civil Rights
3101 Park Center Dr., Suite 1200
Alexandria, VA 23302

The designated agency shall then conduct the complaint review and investigation within the required timeline (90 days).

Adopted: June 14, 2017
Revised: September 19, 2018
Revised: December 16, 2020
Revised: June 28, 2023

LEGAL REF.: USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Instruction 113-1 (*civil rights compliance and enforcement – nutrition programs and activities*)
7 C.F.R. 15.d.2 9 (*definition of discrimination in programs or activities conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture*)
USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

Fountain-Fort Carson School District #8, Fountain, Colorado