

## Special Dietary Accommodation, Q&A

HPS strives to increase student participation in school lunch and breakfast programs. Therefore, special meal accommodations such as a vegetarian menu, a halal-friendly menu, lactose-free milk and soymilk options are available. Halal-friendly menus are prepared with only halal certified ingredients using separate pans and utensils, which are designated for halal-friendly cooking only. For more information, please check the below Q&A

Q: Are there meat-free menu options?

A: Yes, you can request a vegetarian meal by completing the Special Dietary Accommodations Request form and check the box at the bottom requesting a vegetarian meal. The form may be signed by a parent or guardian. A meal will be put aside for your child daily.

Q: How are vegetarian menus prepared?

A: The ingredients used for vegetarian meals follow the standard vegetarian diet pattern to exclude meat and/or seafood. All vegetarian meals are prepared according to FDA regulations using proper sanitation & food handling procedures.

Q: How are halal-friendly menus prepared?

A: Halal-Friendly menus are prepared with only halal certified ingredients. Halal-Friendly menus are prepared using separate pans and utensils, which are designated for halal friendly cooking only.

Q: Can HPS provide halal-certified meals?

A: We are partnering with Food Service Management companies to provide halal meals to our students who are requesting. Child nutrition program guidelines don't require the Food Service Management companies to be certified in order to provide halal meals. Therefore, we call it "Halal Friendly." HPS will provide halal-friendly meals to students to accommodate special dietary requests.

Q: How do I request a halal-friendly menu for my child?

A: Complete the Special Dietary Accommodations Request form and check the box at the bottom requesting a halal-friendly meal. The form may be signed by a parent or guardian. A meal will be put aside for your child daily.

Q: Will halal-friendly meals be available to choose from if I do not return the Special Dietary Accommodations Request form?

A: While there may be some halal-friendly meals available, we cannot guarantee that one will be available at the time of your child's lunch. To ensure a meal is reserved for your child, please complete and return the Special Dietary Accommodations Form.

Q: Where can I find the Special Dietary Accommodations Form to request a meal?

A: The form is available on the school website. You may also ask the Child Nutrition Assistant at your child's school.