



FOOD ALLERGY AND SPECIAL DIET PROGRAM (FASDP)

2026-2027



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Proactive measures serve as the best protection for our students with food allergies or special dietary needs. Maschio's Food Services, Inc. ("Maschio's") offers many foods to the students in your district or school; however, not all foods on your school's standard menu are allergen-free. While our digital menu platform allows filtering by allergen, our menus are subject to change and should not be used as a primary source of allergy management.

We always stress that the safest meal is one packed from home. We highly recommend that students with food allergies avoid purchasing snacks sold during school hours as these snacks are more likely to come into contact with allergens during manufacturing or preparation. Maschio's offers customized menus for students with food allergies or special dietary needs.

The following customized menus can be prepared to meet your child's dietary needs:

- **"Allergen Safe Menus"**: for students with food allergies
- **"Special Diet Menus"**: for students who require a special diet for a medical condition (diabetes, phenylketonuria "PKU," kidney disease, etc.)

Allergen safe menus are typically customized for students with Top 9 Allergies (Egg, Wheat, Soy, Milk, Sesame, Peanut, Tree Nut, Fish, and Shellfish). While our food service staff can monitor easily identifiable items, like a whole apple for students with overt allergies, our staff are not medical providers. We cannot guarantee our food service staff will be able to accurately identify allergens. In schools using a point-of-sale system, we are able to add a note so that it appears on the screen when the student goes through the serving line. If your student has an overt allergy and you would like a note added to the point-of-sale (POS) system, please email us at nutrition@maschiofood.com with the subject line **"OVERT ALLERGY"**. No medical documentation is required for POS notes regarding "overt allergies".

While Maschio's strives to purchase menu items on our standard menus free of peanuts, tree nuts, and sesame. We cannot guarantee that all menu items on our digital menu platform are manufactured in peanut, tree nut, and sesame free facilities or do not share equipment with other allergens. Some of our schools may offer peanut butter; please contact the nutrition department for more information.

If you would like an "Allergen Safe Menu," "Special Diet Menu," or Milk Substitution please complete our Medical Statement Request Form for Special Meals and Milk Substitutions. All documentation may also be completed online by visiting <https://bit.ly/specialmealrequestform>. If you prefer to submit the documentation digitally please email nutrition@maschiofood.com and use the subject line **"MEDICAL STATEMENT"**. Alternatively, the form may be faxed to (908) 888-2335. Please note that supplemental documentation may be required from your child's licensed medical provider. Updated medical forms must be submitted to the nutrition department annually as these menus do not rollover year to year. If a "Allergen Safe Menu," "Special Diet Menu," or Milk Substitution is not needed, no paperwork is required.

Upon receipt of documentation, Maschio's will provide a customized menu along with nutrition facts labels for your approval, and staff training will be scheduled. As implementation may take several weeks, please pack meals from home until you are notified the menu/s are available.

For any additional questions, please contact the nutrition office at (973) 598-0005 or email us at nutrition@maschiofood.com.

Thank you for continuing to work with Maschio's to keep your children healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Kunick, MPH, RDN, LDN, CHES
Director of Nutrition
Maschio's Food Services, Inc.
lkunick@maschiofood.com

For more information on accommodations in school meal programs, please visit the USDA's poly memorandum (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/2016-modification-to-accommodate-disabilities-in-school-meals>).

3 STEPS to Receiving a SAFE MENU

1. Submission of a complete Maschio's medical statement or medical documentation/provider note.
2. Approved and signed menu received.
3. Additional specialized training for pertinent school and/or food service employees and product procurement.