

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

The Governing Board recognizes that adequate, nourishing food is essential to student health, development, and ability to learn. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to increase students' access to and participation in the district's food service programs and maintain fiscal integrity of the program in accordance with law.

Foods and beverages available through the district's food service program shall:

1. Be carefully selected so as to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and the prevention of disease

(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)

2. Meet or exceed nutrition standards specified in law and administrative regulation

(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)

(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

3. Be prepared in ways that will appeal to students, retain nutritive quality, and foster lifelong healthful eating habits

4. Be served in age-appropriate portions

5. Be provided at no cost to students who request a meal (in accordance with EC 49501.5, as added by AB 130)

(cf. 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall communicate information related to the district's food service program to the public through available means, including, but not limited to, the district's website, department website, a media release, the district information directory, and other school publications.

To encourage student participation in school meal programs, schools may offer multiple choices of food items within a meal service, provided all food items meet nutrition standards and all students are given an opportunity to select any food item.

The Superintendent or designee may invite students and parents/guardians to participate in the selection of foods of good nutritional quality for school menus.

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (continued)

To the extent possible, the district's food service program shall give priority to serving unprocessed food and fresh fruits and vegetables.

District schools are encouraged to establish school gardens to increase the availability of safe, fresh, and seasonal fruits and vegetables to support the district's nutrition education program.

The Board desires to provide students with adequate time and space to eat meals. To the extent possible, school, recess, and transportation schedules shall be designed to promote participation in school meal programs.

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically review the adequacy of school cafeterias and facilities for food preparation and consumption.

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 3517- Facilities Inspection)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

In accordance with law, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a food safety program in order to reduce the risk of foodborne hazards at each step of the food preparation process, from receiving to service.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on student participation in the district's nutrition programs and the extent to which the district's food services program meets state and federal nutrition standards for foods and beverages.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide all necessary and available documentation required for the Administrative Review conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure the food service program's compliance with federal requirements related to nutrition standards, meal patterns, provisions of drinking water, school meal environment, food safety, and other areas as required by the CDE.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35182.5 *Contracts, non-nutritious beverages*

38080-38103 *Cafeteria, establishment and use*

45103.5 *Contracts for management consulting services; restrictions*

49430-49436 *Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001*

49490-49494 *School breakfast and lunch programs*

49500-49505 *School meals*

49510-49520 *Nutrition*

49530-49536 *Child Nutrition Act*

49540-49546 *Child care food program*

49547-49548.3 *Comprehensive nutrition services*

49550-49562 *Meals for needy students*

49570 *National School Lunch Act*

51795-51797 *School gardens*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

113700-114437 *California Retail Food Code*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15510 *Mandatory meals for needy students*

15530-15535 *Nutrition education*

15550-15565 *School lunch and breakfast programs*

15575-15578 *Requirements for foods and beverages outside federal meal programs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j *National School Lunch Program, including:*

1758b *Local wellness policy*

1761 *Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Feeding Option*

1769a *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program*

1771-1793 *Child nutrition, especially:*

1772 *Special Milk Program*

1773 *National School Breakfast Program*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.31 *National School Lunch Program*

215.1-215.18 *Special Milk Program*

220.1-220.21 *National School Breakfast Program*

245.1-245.13 *Eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and free milk*

Management Resources: (see next page)

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009

Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007

Monitoring for Success: Student Wellness Policy Implementation Monitoring Report and Guide, 2007

Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. April 2006

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

School Meals Initiative Summary

Healthy Children Ready to Learn, January 2005

CALIFORNIA PROJECT LEAN PUBLICATIONS

Policy in Action: A Guide to Implementing Your Local School Wellness Policy, October 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS

School Breakfast Toolkit

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: Handbook for Schools, December 2010

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs, December 2007

Civil Rights Compliance and Enforcement - Nutrition Programs and Activities, FNS Instruction 113-1, November 2005

Guidance for School Food Authorities: Developing a School Food Safety Program Based on the Process Approach to HACCP Principles, June 2005

Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2005

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California Farm Bureau Federation: <http://www.cfbf.com>

California Food Policy Advocates: <http://www.cfpa.net>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition): <http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity: <http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns>

Policy

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revised: August 7, 2001

revised: January 27, 2004

revised: April 25, 2006

revised: August 9, 2011

revised: January 10, 2023

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Nutrition Standards for School Meals

Meals, food items, and beverages provided through the district's food services program shall: (Education Code 49501.5, 49553; 42 USC 1758, 1773)

1. Comply with National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Program standards for meal patterns, nutrient levels, and calorie requirements for the ages/grade levels served, as specified in 7 CFR 210.10 or 220.8, as applicable

2. Not be deep fried, par fried, or flash fried, as defined in Education Code 49430 and 49430.7

(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)

Drinking Water

The district shall provide access to free, fresh drinking water during meal times in food service areas at all district schools, including, but not limited to, areas where reimbursable meals under the National School Lunch or Breakfast Program are served or consumed. (Education Code 38086; 42 USC 1758)

Special Milk Program

Any school that does not participate in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Program may participate in the Special Milk Program to provide all enrolled students with reasonably priced milk. (7 CFR 215.1)

Food Safety

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's food service program meets the applicable sanitation and safety requirements of the California Retail Food Code as set forth in Health and Safety Code 113700-114437.

For all district schools participating in the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program, the Superintendent or designee shall implement a written food safety program for the storage, preparation, and service of school meals which complies with the national Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system. The district's HACCP plan shall include, but is not limited to, a determination of critical control points and critical limits at each stage of food production, monitoring procedures, corrective actions, and recordkeeping procedures. (42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 210.13, 220.7)

FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that food service directors, managers, and staff complete an annual continuing education or training as required by law. Each new employee, including a substitute, or volunteer shall complete initial food safety training prior to handling food. The Superintendent or designee shall document the date, trainer, and subject of each training.

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall assign staff to maintain records and logs documenting food safety activities, including, but not limited to, records of food deliveries, time and temperature monitoring during food production, equipment temperature (freezer, cooler, thermometer calibration), corrective actions, verification or review of safety efforts, and staff training.

Inspection of Food Facilities

All food preparation and service areas shall be inspected in accordance with Health and Safety Code 113725-113725.1 and applicable county regulations.

Each school participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Program shall, during each school year, obtain a minimum of two food safety inspections conducted by the county environmental health agency. (42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 210.13, 220.7)

The Superintendent or designee shall retain records from the most recent food safety inspection. All schools shall post a notice indicating that the most recent inspection report is available to any interested person upon request. (Health and Safety Code 113725.1; 42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 210.13, 210.15, 220.7)

(cf. 1340 - Access to District Records)

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Regulation
approved: December 8, 2003
revised: March 6, 2006
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VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Visalia, California