



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Revised Policy - Vol. 33, No. 2 - Ready for Board
Title	Copy of FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM
Code	po8500
Status	First Reading
Adopted	August 5, 2019
Last Revised	March 14, 2022

8500 - FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

The Corporation will provide cafeteria or serving facilities in all schools where space and facilities permit and food service for the purchase and consumption of lunch for all students.

Subject to adequate funding, the Corporation also will provide a breakfast program in accordance with procedures established by the State Department of Education.

The Corporation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or **gender** identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities, including the Food Service program. Students and all other members of the School Corporation community and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of unlawful discrimination and/or retaliation related to the Food Service program to a teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other Corporation official so that the Board may address the conduct. See Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity.

The food-service program will comply with Federal and State regulations pertaining to the selection, preparation, consumption, and disposal of food and beverages, including but not limited to the current USDA school meal pattern requirements and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, as well as to the fiscal management of the program. In addition, as required by law, a food safety program that is based on the principles of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system shall be implemented with the intent of preventing food-borne illnesses. For added safety and security, access to the facility and the food stored and prepared therein shall be limited to food service program staff and other authorized persons.

Dietary Modifications

A request for substitutions to the standard meal requirements due to food allergies shall be accommodated, when requested by an adult student with a disability or the parent of a student with a disability, at no additional charge. The adult student with a disability or the parent of a student with disability making such a request of the Food Service Director shall be informed that medical certification that the student has a disability that restricts his/her diet, in accordance with the criteria set forth in 7 C.F.R. Part 15b must be submitted within five (5) school days from a health care provider who has prescriptive authority in the State of Indiana or the dietary modification may be discontinued until such statement is received.

The medical certification must identify:

- A. the **student's** physical or mental impairment and why the student's disability or medical condition necessitates such a restriction of the **students's** diet;
- B. an explanation of what the Food Service Program must do to accommodate the **student's** disability; and
- C. the food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet and the recommended food or choice of foods that must be substituted (e.g., caloric modifications or use of liquid nutritive formula).

The Food Service Director shall make the dietary modification for the student pending the receipt of the required medical certification. If deemed necessary by the student's IEP or 504 Team, the dietary modification shall be included in the student's IEP or 504 plan.

A request for substitutions to the standard meal requirements due to food allergies shall be accommodated, when requested by an adult student who is not identified as having a disability or the parent of a student who is not identified as having a disability, at no additional charge. An adult student who is not identified as having a disability or the parent of a student who is not identified as having a disability making such a request of the Food Service Director shall be informed that a signed medical statement from a health care provider who has prescriptive authority in the State of Indiana that the student cannot consume certain food items due to a medical condition or some other special dietary need must be submitted within five (5) school days or the dietary modification may be discontinued until such statement is received. To qualify for continuing consideration and substitutions the medical statement must identify:

- A. the medical or dietary need that restricts the student's diet;
- B. an explanation of what the Food Service Program must do to address the student's medical or dietary restriction; and
- C. the food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet and the recommended food or choice of foods that must be substituted (e.g., caloric modifications or use of liquid nutritive formula).

The Food Service Director shall make the dietary modification for the student pending the receipt of the required medical certification.

The Food Service Program shall not accommodate a student's request for specific substitutions to the standard meal pattern requirements that is based solely on religious or lifestyle choices.

Operation and Supervision of the Food Service Program

Lunches sold by the school may be purchased by students and staff members and guardian/parent in accordance with the procedures established by the Superintendent.

The operation and supervision of the food-service program is the responsibility of the Food Service Director/Dietitian. Food Service program will be operated on a self-supporting basis with revenue from students, staff, Federal reimbursement, and surplus food. The Board will assist the program by furnishing available space, initial major equipment, and utensils.

A lunch account becomes inactive on June 1st of each year for a student who has withdrawn from the school corporation. An inactive lunch account that has a positive balance of \$25 or less may be receipted back into the school prepaid lunch fund where the School Lunch Program funds are maintained. An inactive lunch account that has a nominal negative account balance may be offset against the positive balances in the Fund; provided, however, that if the parent requests and can document entitlement to the positive balance in the account, the parent is entitled to a refund of that amount or transfer to a sibling.

Significant negative lunch account balances shall not be permitted. A significant negative lunch account balance is any balance owed in excess of \$5.00. Any significant negative lunch account balance should be pursued for collection pursuant to Policy 6151 before it is determined to be uncollectable.

In accordance with Federal law, Food Service Director/Dietitian will take such actions as are necessary to obtain a minimum of two (2) food safety inspections per school year, which are conducted by the State or local governmental agency responsible for food safety inspections. The report of the most recent inspection will be posted in a publicly visible location, and a copy of the report will be available upon request.

A periodic review of the food-service accounts will be made by the Business Office. Any surplus funds from the National School Lunch Program will be used to reduce the cost of the service to students or to purchase cafeteria equipment. Surplus funds from à la carte foods may accrue to the food services program. Bad debt incurred through the inability to collect lunch payment from students is not an allowable cost chargeable to any Federal program. Any related collection cost, including legal cost, arising from such bad debt after they have been determined to be uncollectable also are unallowable.

With regard to the operation of the school food service program, the Corporation shall require:

- A. maintenance of sanitary, neat premises free from fire and health hazards;
 - B. preparation of food that complies with Federal food safety regulations;
 - C. planning and execution of menus in compliance with USDA requirements;
-

- D. purchase of food and supplies in accordance with State and Federal law, USDA regulations, and Board policy; (see Policy 1130, Policy 1214, Policy 3113, Policy 3214, Policy 4113, Policy 4214, and Policy 6460)
- E. compliance with food holds and recalls in accordance with USDA regulations;
- F. accounting and disposition of food-service funds pursuant to Federal and State law and USDA regulations;
- G. safekeeping and storage of food and food equipment pursuant to State and Federal law and USDA regulations;
- H. regular maintenance and replacement of equipment;
- I. compliance with the Corporation's time and effort record-keeping policy by all Corporation employees whose salaries are paid from USDA funds or with non-Federal funds used to meet a match or cost share requirement.

The Corporation's food service program will serve only food items and beverages as determined by the Food Service Department to be in compliance with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Any competitive food items and beverages that are available for sale to students à la carte in the dining area between midnight and thirty (30) minutes following the end of the last lunch period also shall comply with the current USDA Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, and the USDA Smart Snacks in Schools regulations. Foods and beverages unassociated with the food-service program may be vended subject to the rules and regulations set forth in Policy 8540.

The Corporation shall require that the food service program serve foods in the schools of the Corporation that are wholesome and nutritious and reinforce the concepts taught in the classroom.

© Neola 2016

Legal

- Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.
- Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.
- 7 CFR Parts 15b, 210, 215, 220, 225, 226, 227, 235, 240, 245, 3015
- 2 C.F.R. Part 200
- USDA Smart Snacks in School Food Guidelines (effective July 1, 2014)
- SP 32-2015 Statements Supporting Accommodations for Children with Disabilities in the Child Nutrition Programs
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794
- 34 CFR Part 104

