

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS

The Governing Board recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to child development and learning and that some families may be unable to provide breakfast and lunch for their children. In accordance with law, the district shall provide free and reduced price meals for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend for Board approval a plan that ensures that students eligible to receive free or reduced price meals are not treated differently from other students or easily identified by their peers.

(cf. 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Upon approval of the Board, this plan shall be submitted to the California Department of Education for approval. (Education Code 49557)

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free or reduced price meal program shall be confidential except as provided by law. (Education Code 49558)

If a student transfers from the district to another district or to a private school, the Superintendent or designee may release the student's eligibility status or a copy of his/her free and reduced-price meal application to the other district or school to assist in the continuation of the student's meal benefits.

In accordance with law, the Board authorizes designated employees to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for any free and reduced price meal program for the purpose of: (Education Code 49558)

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data
2. Identification of students eligible for school choice and supplemental educational services in any school identified for program improvement.
3. Determining funding allocations under the local control funding formula and for assessing the accountability of that funding.

(cf. 5125 – Student Records)
(cf. 6171 – Title I Programs)
(cf. 6190 – Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (continued)

The Board further authorizes the release of information on the school lunch program application to the local agency that determines Medi-Cal Program eligibility, provided that the student is approved for free meals and the parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information as provided by Education Code 49557.2.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48980 Notice at beginning of term
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
49510-49520 Nutrition
49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act of 1974
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service
49550-49560 Meals for needy students

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act
6301-6514 Title I programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769 National lunch programs
1771-1791 Child nutrition

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

245.1-245.13 Determination of eligibility for free and reduced meals

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0325.98 Education Code Section 49558 LO: 1-98

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Team Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Services, Changing the Scene, Improving the School Nutrition Environment: A Guide to Local Action, 2000

WEB SITES

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

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

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

California Project LEAN: <http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

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

Policy

adopted: April 18, 1990
revised: April 26, 1999
revised: January 18, 2001
revised: August 17, 2006
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MURRIETA VALLEY USD
Murrieta, California