



Child Nutrition Program

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Special Diet Procedure

Procedures for special diets are as follows:

Managers will oversee the special diet forms at the site they manage.

They will collaborate with the school nurse and the parent/guardian of students with a need which may have cause to prevent the child from eating meals prepared for the general population. This may be due to a disability which is defined under Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act* of 1973, and the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) of 1990, a “person with a disability” means any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

A child with a disability must be provided substitutions in foods when that need is supported by a statement signed by a licensed physician. The physician’s statement must identify:

- ❖ The child’s disability
- ❖ An explanation of why the disability restricts the child’s diet
- ❖ The major life activity affected by the disability
- ❖ The food or foods to be omitted from the child’s diet, and the food or choice of foods that must be substituted.

When Special Meals are given to students during serving time the substitutions provided will be documented on production records the day the meals were changed.

In case of food Allergy:

Generally, children with food allergies or intolerances do not have a disability as defined under either Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act or Part B of IDEA*, and the school food service may, but is not required to, make food substitutions for them.

However, when in the licensed physician’s assessment, food allergies may result in severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reactions, the child’s condition would meet the definition of “disability,” and the substitutions prescribed by the licensed physician must be made.

The manager will collect the form from the parent/guardian of the student that has the special diet needs. The completed special meal request form will be kept in a file or binder on site in the kitchen so the manager has access to the form.

When there are changes in the disability causing restrictions in the meal pattern for the child a new form will need to be completed annually.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider