

**Business and Noninstructional Operations**

The Governing Board recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to the development, health, and learning of all students. The Superintendent or designee shall facilitate and encourage the participation of students from low-income families in the district's food service program.

The district shall provide at least one nutritionally adequate meal each school day, free of charge or at a reduced price, for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria. (Education Code 49550, 49552)

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

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 6177 - Summer School)

(cf. 6300 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that meals provided through the free and reduced-price meal program meet applicable state and/or federal nutritional standards in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

The Board shall approve, and shall submit to the California Department of Education for approval, a plan that ensures that students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals and milk are not treated differently from other students. (Education Code 49557)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

**Confidentiality/Release of Records**

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

The Board authorizes designated employees to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for any free and reduced-price meal program for the purposes of: (Education Code 49558)

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data
2. In any school identified for program improvement under Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act, identification of students eligible for school choice and supplemental educational services

(cf. 0520.2 -Title I Program Improvement Schools)  
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)  
(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)  
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

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.

(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48980 Notice at beginning of term  
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 of 1974  
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service  
49550-49561 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

1751-1769h School lunch program  
1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:  
1773 School breakfast program

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program  
220.10-220.21 National School Breakfast Program  
245.1-245.13 Determination of eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and free milk

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, 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 MANAGEMENT BULLETINS  
06-103 Conditions for Summer School Meal Waivers and Saturday School Meal Criteria,  
January 2006  
04-103 Implementation of Final Rule on Verification of Applications for Free and Reduced-Price  
Meals, August 2004  
98-101 Confidentiality of Free and Reduced-Price Eligibility Information, February 1998  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS  
Feed More Kids, Improve Program Participation  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS  
Provision 2 Guidance: National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, Summer 2002  
Eligibility Guidance for School Meals Manual, August 2001  
WEB SITES  
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>  
California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>  
California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>  
California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):  
<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd>

Policy  
adopted:

WHEATLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Wheatland, California

## **Free And Reduced Price Meals**

AR 3553

### **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

#### **Nondiscrimination Plan**

The district's plan for students receiving free or reduced-price meals shall ensure the following: (Education Code 49557)

1. The names of the students shall not be published, posted, or announced in any manner, or used for any purpose other than the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, unless otherwise provided by law.
2. There shall be no overt identification of any of the students by the use of special tokens or tickets or by any other means.
3. The students shall not be required to work for their meals or for milk.
4. The students shall not be required to use a separate dining area, go through a separate serving line or entrance, or consume their meals or milk at a different time.

When more than one lunch, breakfast, or type of milk is offered, the students shall have the same choice of meals or milk as is available to those students who pay the full price. (Education Code 49557; 7 CFR 245.8)

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

#### **Applications**

An application form for free or reduced-price meals shall be distributed to all parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year, together with information about eligibility standards, application procedures, and appeal procedures. This form and information shall also be provided whenever a new student is enrolled. (Education Code 48980, 49520; 7 CFR 245.5)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Applications for the free and reduced-price meal program shall be available to students at all times during the regular school day and shall contain the following statements: (Education Code 49557; 7 CFR 245.5)

1. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school day.
2. Students participating in the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs will not be overtly identified by the use of special tokens, special tickets, special serving lines,

separate entrances, separate dining areas, or by any other means.

#### Eligibility

The Superintendent or designee shall determine students' eligibility for the free and reduced-price meal program based on the criteria specified in 42 USC 1758 and 1773 and 7 CFR 245.1-245.13 and made available by the California Department of Education.

When authorized by law, participants in other federal or state programs may be directly certified for enrollment in the free and reduced-price meal program. (Education Code 49561)

#### Confidentiality/Release of Records

The Superintendent designates the following district employee(s) to use individual records pertaining to student participation in the free and reduced-price meal program for the purpose of disaggregation of academic achievement data or for the identification of students in any program improvement school eligible for school choice and supplemental educational services pursuant to 20 USC 6316:

School Site Administrators, District Office Administrators

In using the records for such purposes, the following conditions shall be satisfied: (Education Code 49558)

1. No individual indicators of participation in the free and reduced-price meal program shall be maintained in the permanent records of any student if not otherwise allowed by law.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

2. Information regarding individual student participation in the free and reduced-price meal program shall not be publicly released.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

3. All other confidentiality provisions required by law shall be met.

4. Information collected regarding individual students certified to participate in the free and reduced-price meal program shall be destroyed when no longer needed for its intended purpose.

Policy  
adopted:

WHEATLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Wheatland, California