

8520 FREE AND REDUCED PRICE FOOD SERVICES

The Board of Education recognizes that the nutrition of district students is an important factor in their educational progress. The Board therefore shall participate in federally funded school lunch programs, and shall provide free or reduced price food services to qualified district students.

1. Eligibility Determination

The Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations shall make final determinations as to which children will be eligible to receive such services.

2. Standards of Eligibility

Any child who is a member of a family unit whose income is below the New York State Minimum Scale for family size of the same number shall be eligible to receive such services.

3. Application Procedures

- a. Application forms are mailed to all participants annually, available in the main office of each school building and on the district website. They can be completed and submitted at any time during the year.
- b. Completed forms must be submitted to the Business Office for the determination of eligibility.
- c. The adult responsible for the child will be informed of the district's determination within ten (10) calendar days of receiving a properly completed application.

4. Provision for Anonymity

All reasonable efforts will be extended in protecting the anonymity of the student in accordance with federal regulations governing such programs.

5. Provision for Appeal

Upon written request, the District Designated Hearing Officer will hear appeals of determinations regarding such services in compliance with federal regulations governing the National School Lunch Program.

In addition, in order to reach students who are eligible for free and reduced price meals and to comply with state law, three times per school year, the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations or designee, will review the list made available by the State Education Department of children ages three to 18 who are in households receiving federal assistance or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to identify students within the district. The district will send a notice to those families apprising them of their student's eligibility to participate in the school meal programs without further application. Parents may decline participation by informing the district in writing. If the service is declined, the student will be removed from the eligibility list.

"Children in Head Start, or who have been determined to be homeless, migrant or runaway, or in foster care can be directly certified to participate in the district free and reduced price meal program. The Superintendent or designee will develop implementing regulations."

The Building Principal in conjunction with the Food Service Director will establish meal time procedures that both protect the anonymity of the student and allow for proper accounting for meal reimbursement in accordance with all applicable laws.

Cross ref:

8500, Food Service Management

Ref:

National School Lunch Act of 1946, as amended ([42 USC §§1751-1760](#))

Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, ([42 USC §§1771-1760](#))

[7 CFR Part 245 \(245.2](#), Definitions; [245.5](#), public announcement; [245.6](#), categorical eligibility and direct certification/verification.)

[Social Services Law §95\(7\)](#)

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