

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE FOOD SERVICES1. Philosophy

The Board of Education recognizes that the nutrition of District students is an important factor in their educational progress. The Board, therefore, has agreed to adopt and fully implement the Free and Reduced Price Meal Policy as mandated by the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service for the Reimbursed School Lunch and the Commodity Distribution Programs as filed with the New York State Education Department, Child Nutrition Program Administration and the New York State, OGS, Division of Food Distribution and Warehousing respectively.

2. Eligibility Determination

The Food Services Director, along with the Food Services office staff, shall make the determination as to which children/families are eligible to receive such services via either Direct Certification, Meal Application, Foster Child, or the McKinney-Vento eligibility process.

3. Standards Of Eligibility

Any child who is a member of a family unit whose income is below the current Federal USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines shall be eligible to receive such services.

4. Application Procedures

- a. Family application forms will be mailed to each District household in August, posted on the District's website (www.southcolonieschools.org), and will be available at the South Colonie District Offices. Applications will also be available in the Main Office, Guidance Office and Food Services Office of each school building.
- b. Completed forms must be submitted to the District Office, Main Office or Food Services Office of the school which the student attends prior to any determination of eligibility.
- c. The adult responsible for the child(ren) of the household will be informed of the Food Services Office determination within a reasonable period of time after receiving a properly completed application.

5. Provision For Anonymity

All reasonable efforts will be extended to protect the anonymity of the student in accordance with Federal regulations governing such programs.

6. Provision For Appeal

Upon written request, the Assistant Superintendent for Management Services and Strategic Planning will hear appeals of determination regarding such services in compliance with Federal regulations governing the National School Lunch Program.

Reference: National School Lunch Act of 1946, as amended (42 USC 1751-1760)
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, Public Law 89-642, 80 Stat. 885, as amended

Cross-Reference: 8500, Food Service Management
8505, Food Service Meal Charge

Reviewed: April 29, 2014

Revised: February 13, 2018