

Regulation
approved:

Food Service/Child Nutrition Program

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Santa Cruz, California

BP 3550

The County Board recognizes that adequate, nourishing food is essential to student health, development, and ability to learn. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to increase students' access to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's food service programs and to maximize their participation in available programs.

Foods and beverages available through the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's food service program shall:

1. Be carefully selected so as to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and the prevention of disease

(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)

2. Meet or exceed nutrition standards specified in law and administrative regulation

(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)

(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

3. Be prepared in ways that will appeal to students, retain nutritive quality, and foster lifelong healthful eating habits

4. Be served in age-appropriate portions

5. Be available to students who meet federal eligibility criteria at no cost or at reduced prices, and to other students at reasonable prices

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

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

The COE's food service program shall give priority to serving unprocessed foods and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Santa Cruz County Office of Education schools are encouraged to establish school gardens and/or farm-to-school projects to increase the availability of safe, fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables for school meals and to support the COE's nutrition education program.

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

To encourage student participation in school meal programs, schools may offer multiple choices of food items within a meal service, provided all food items meet nutrition standards and all students are given an opportunity to select any food item.

The Superintendent or designee may invite students and parents/guardians to participate in the selection of foods of good nutritional quality for school menus.

The County Board desires to provide students with adequate time and space to eat meals. To the extent possible, school, recess, and transportation schedules shall be designed to encourage participation in school meal programs.

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically review the adequacy of school facilities for cafeteria eating and food preparation.

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 3517- Facilities Inspection)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

In accordance with law, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a food safety program in order to reduce the risk of foodborne hazards at each step of the food preparation process, from receiving to service.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on student participation in the COE's nutrition programs and the extent to which the COE's food services program meets state and federal nutrition standards for foods and beverages. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide all necessary and available documentation required for the Administrative Review conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure the food service program's compliance with federal requirements related to nutrition standards, meal patterns, provision of drinking water, school meal environment, food safety, and other areas as required by the CDE.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35182.5 Contracts, non-nutritious beverages

38080-38103 Cafeteria, establishment and use

45103.5 Contracts for management consulting services; restrictions

49430-49434 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

49540-49546 Child care food program

Adopted: September 17, 2020

49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition services
49550-49562 Meals for needy students
49570 National School Lunch Act
51795-51797 School gardens
HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
113700-114437 California Retail Food Code
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs
15575-15578 Requirements for foods and beverages outside federal meal programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1751-1769j National School Lunch Program, including:
1758b Local wellness policy
1761 Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Feeding Option
1769a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
1771-1793 Child nutrition, especially:
1772 Special Milk Program
1773 National School Breakfast Program
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7
210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
215.1-215.18 Special Milk Program
220.2-220.22 National School Breakfast Program
245.1-245.13 Eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and free milk

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009

Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, rev. 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 PUBLICATIONS

School Meals Initiative Summary

Healthy Children Ready to Learn, January 2005

Professional Standards in the School Nutrition Programs, Management Bulletin SNP-17-2016, October 2016

CALIFORNIA PROJECT LEAN PUBLICATIONS

Policy in Action: A Guide to Implementing Your Local School Wellness Policy, October 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS

School Breakfast Toolkit

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: Handbook for Schools, December 2010

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs, December 2007

Civil Rights Compliance and Enforcement - Nutrition Programs and Activities, FNS Instruction 113-1, November 2005

Guidance for School Food Authorities: Developing a School Food Safety Program Based on the Process Approach to HACCP Principles, June 2005

Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2005

WEB SITES

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

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

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California Farm Bureau Federation: <http://www.cfbf.com>

California Food Policy Advocates: <http://www.cfpa.net>

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

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):
<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity: <http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>

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

(11/07 3/11) 12/14