

3542.31 FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS

Participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) are herewith authorized. Authorization is granted to the Superintendent to act on behalf of the Board for purposes of participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

Free meals will be served to children from families whose income falls within the current criteria established by the Secretary of Agriculture under the Federal Lunch/Breakfast Programs for free meals.

The District shall establish an appeals process under which a parent/guardian may appeal a decision regarding his/her initial application for benefits, or any subsequent reduction or termination of benefits.

The schools shall not physically segregate or discriminate against any child because of his or her inability to pay for a meal. The names of children eligible to receive free meals shall not be published, posted, or announced in any manner; and there shall be no overt identification of any such children by the use of special tokens or tickets, or by any other means.

The District shall ensure that, in the operation of the free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk programs, no student shall be discriminated against because of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, gender identity or expression, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or disability, or any other basis prohibited by law, in its implementation of such a program.

The District's NSLP and SBP shall operate to meet dietary specifications in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and applicable state laws and regulations.

Note: An optional approach, the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) allows eligible schools to provide free meals to all students at no charge, regardless of family income. To qualify, at least 40 percent of a school's population must be identified as low income children who meet criteria for free school meals. Instead of collecting individual applications for free and reduced price meals, CEP uses information from other programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Temporary Assistance Program for Needy Families.

(cf. [3542](#) - School Lunch Program)

(cf. [3542.33](#) - Food Sales Other Than National School Lunch Program)

(cf. [3542.34](#) - Nutrition Program)

(cf. [3542.43](#) - Charging Policy)

(cf. [6142.101](#) - Student Nutrition and Physical Wellness, School Wellness)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-215](#) Lunches, breakfasts and other feeding programs for public school children and employees.

[10-216](#) Payment of expenses.

Title VII, Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000e, et seq. as amended by Title IX,
Equal Employment Opportunity Act.
United States Department of Agriculture 7 C.F.R. 15, re nondiscrimination.
42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758, 7 CFR Part 145, Sec. 245.5, 245.6, 245.7, 210.9, 210.20
U.S.D.A., Eligibility Guidance for School Meals Manual
U.S.D.A., FNS Instruction 765-7 Rev. 2: Handling Lost, Stolen and Misused
Meal Tickets
Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, 42 U.S.C. 1751 §§203, 205
Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs or Activities
Receiving Federal Assistance, 7 C.F.R. Part 15b (2001)

Approved by the Salisbury Board of Education: October 21, 2019