FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business and Noninstructional Operations
FOOD SERVICE / CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

The County Superintendent and County Board recognize that adequate, nourishing food is essential to student health, development, and ability to learn. The County Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to increase students’ access to food service programs and to maximize their participation in available programs. Foods and beverages available through the County Superintendent’s food service program shall:

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

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

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 provided at no cost to students who request a meal.

At the beginning of each school year, the County Superintendent or designee shall communicate information related to the food service programs to the public through available means, including, but not limited to, the County Superintendent’s web site, social media, flyers, and school publications.

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

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 County Superintendent’s nutrition education program.

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 nutritional standards and all students are given an opportunity to select any food item.

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

In accordance with law, the County 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.
FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Staff shall annually report to the County Superintendent on student participation in nutrition programs and the extent to which the food services program meets state and federal nutrition standards for foods and beverages. In addition, the County 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.

Adopted: 11/15/2007
Amended: 01/19/2012, 12/12/2023

Legal References

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
48432.3 Voluntary enrollment in continuation education
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
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
15550-15555 School lunch and breakfast programs
15575-15578 Requirements for foods and beverages outside federal meal programs

United States Code, Title 42
1751-1769 National School Lunch Program
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
SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD POLICY

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

California Department of Education Publications
Professional Standards in the School Nutrition Programs, Management Bulletin SNP-17-2016, October 2016
School Meals Initiative Summary
Healthy Children Ready to Learn, January 2005

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

Websites
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