

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

The following criteria have been established for use in determining eligible patrons for free and reduce price meals:

1. The free and reduced price meal registrar has been designated as the official to determine which individual students are eligible for a reduced price or a free meal.
2. The District will provide forms to parents or guardians on which application for consideration of eligibility of their children for reduced price or free meals can be made.
3. All students will be considered "Full Pay" paying full price for their meals until a determination on the free or reduced meal application has been made. According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines, applications will be processed for determination within 10 working days or receipt of completed application in the Free and Reduced Registrar's office.
4. Parents or guardians may appeal an application if it is denied to The Division of Business Services. A hearing will be conducted under the hearing procedure described in Section 2.2 of the Colorado Department of Education Administrator's Reference Manual. The child who was previously determined to be eligible based on the information provided on the application will continue to receive free or reduced-price meals until the appeal process is complete and a final decision has been made.
5. The District will abide by the income poverty guidelines as published by the United States Department of Agriculture.
6. The District will notify the District patrons each school year of the availability of the reduced priced or free meals. Information will be sent home with students or applications may be mailed to the address of record on file. Information will also be available through the District website, school lunch menus and newsletters. The District will also provide a release to all informational media in the area at the same time the notice is sent to the home.
7. Students receiving free or reduced price meals will not be required as a condition of receiving such meals to use a separate lunchroom or section of the lunchroom, to go through a separate serving line, to enter the lunchroom through a different entrance, to work for their meals, to use a different medium of exchange or to eat lunch at a different time from paying students. The names will not be made public but shall be confidential information.

Approved July 29, 1980
Revised March 1981
Revised May 2003
Reviewed December 12, 2012

CROSS REF.: EF, Food and Nutrition Services

LEGAL REFS.: 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq. (National School Lunch Act)
USDA Part 210, App. B
1 C.C.R. 301-3, Rules 2202-R-204
C.R.S. 22-32-120