

BUS13.2 - Food and Nutrition Management: Free and Reduced-Price Meals

B - Business

Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

Objective:

The district will provide free and reduced-price meals to eligible students through participation in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, ensuring access to nutritious meals for families meeting federal income guidelines.

1. Program Participation:

The district will implement a free and reduced-price meal program as approved by the Governing Board. Participation in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs will allow eligible students to receive meals at no cost or a reduced price based on their family's income level.

2. Notification to Parents:

All parents, including those of students who enroll mid-year, will be notified of the free and reduced-price meal program. The notification will be sent via letter, and applications will be made available to families. The Food Service Director will review and maintain all applications.

3. Income Guidelines:

The district will use the income poverty guidelines prescribed annually on July 1 to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price meals. These guidelines are based on federal income levels and must be used for the upcoming fiscal year.

4. State Responsibilities:

Each state agency has a duty to inform schools and service institutions of their responsibility to provide free or reduced-price meals to students who qualify based on the federal income guidelines.

Legal References:

- Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 15-1158