

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

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## **B - Business**

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### **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