Ohio | Department of Education

Civil Rights/Nondiscrimination in the Child Nutrition Programs Fact Sheet

Sponsors of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs must comply with the following Civil Rights/Nondiscrimination requirements:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- All provisions required by the implementing regulations of the USDA
- Department of Justice Enforcement Guidelines, 28 CFR 50.3 and 42
- Food and Nutrition Service directives and guidelines

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program activity for which the Sponsor receives federal financial assistance from the Food and Nutrition Service.

There will be no physical segregation of, nor any other discrimination against, any student because of the inability to pay the full price of the meal or milk.

The names of the students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals or free milk shall not be published, posted, or announced in any manner and there shall be no overt identification of any such students by use of special tokens or tickets or any other means.

Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals or free milk shall not be required to:

- Work for their meals
- Use a separate lunchroom or milk service area
- Go through a separate serving line
- Enter the lunchroom through a separate entrance
- Eat meals or drink milk at a different time
- Eat a meal different from the one sold to children paying the full price or drink milk different from that sold to children paying the full price.
- Use method of payment or distribution of tickets or tokens different from the method used by children paying full price.

Free, reduced-price or paid meals or milk shall not be denied to any student as disciplinary action in a school receiving federal reimbursement for meals or milk. Areas of compliance with civil rights/nondiscrimination are reviewed during each Sponsor's regulatory Coordinated Review Effort (CRE).

Compliance with USDA regulations regarding nondiscrimination in 7 CFR Parts 15, 15(a), and 15(b) insures that Sponsors:

- Display the USDA nondiscrimination poster ("Justice for All") in the meal service area where students can see it
- Put the following nondiscrimination statement and instructions to file a complaint on all documents or publications related to the Child Nutrition Programs:

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Sponsor shall compile data, maintain records and submit reports, as required, to permit effective enforcement of the nondiscrimination laws and permit authorized USDA personnel during normal working hours to review such records, books and accounts as needed to ascertain compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. If there are any violations of this assurance, the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, shall have the rights to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance.

This assurance is binding on the Sponsor and its successors, transferees and assignees, as long as they receive assistance or retain possession of any assistance from the USDA. The person or persons whose signatures appear on the Sponsor Application are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Sponsor.

The Ohio Department of Education Office for Child Nutrition
25 South Front Street, Mail Stop 303 Columbus, OH 43215-4183
614-466-2945

Additional information is available at: **www.education.ohio.gov**

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