



Board of Education Policy Manual

8000 Series: Support Services

Policy 8520 **FREE OR REDUCED PRICE LUNCHES**

Free lunches for needy students will be provided under the rules and regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Education Department as amended.

Free or reduced price lunches for children in grades kindergarten through twelve shall be provided under the following conditions:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the Food Service Manager to administer this policy, to receive the prescribed applications and to approve or disapprove such applications in accordance with the eligibility criteria established by the Federal Government and to inform the school lunch manager of his/her decision in each case.
 2. Pupils shall be eligible for free lunches if gross weekly family income is below the amount for the number of dependent minors living at home shown specified by the Federal Government prior to each school year.
 3. Family income verification must be supplied by the applicant and provided at the time application is made.
 4. The Food Service Manager, with the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, may approve applications for free lunches if after investigation and verification, family special circumstances warrant action in the vital interest of the child who is otherwise ineligible.
 5. In any event, the following conditions shall create a presumption of ineligibility and free lunches will not be provided:
 - A. Non-resident children supported by social welfare or similar funding sources.
 - B. Resident children living away from their family and supported by social welfare or similar funding sources.
 6. Building principals may withhold approval of free lunches if there is verified evidence of ability to pay not disclosed by the applicant.
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