

FOOD ALLERGIES/SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

The Board of Education desires to prevent exposure of students to foods to which they are allergic and to provide for prompt and appropriate treatment in the event that a severe allergic reaction occurs at school.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines for the care of food-allergic students. Such guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, ~~strategies for identifying students at risk for allergic reactions,~~ avoidance measures and other means to manage allergies, education of staff regarding typical symptoms, and actions to be taken in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

Parents/guardians shall be responsible for notifying the Superintendent or designee, in writing, regarding any food allergies or other special dietary needs of their child in accordance with administrative regulation.

When a student's food allergy or food intolerance substantially limits one or more major life activities, his/her parents/guardians shall be informed of the district's obligation to evaluate the student to determine if he/she requires accommodations pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act. The student shall be evaluated in accordance with law and the procedures specified in AR 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504. If that process results in the development of a Section 504 plan, the district shall provide the accommodations and/or aids and services identified in the plan.

If a student's diet restrictions and needed services are addressed in an individualized education program (IEP), the Superintendent or designee shall ensure compliance with the IEP including any necessary food substitutions.

~~Students with serious dietary needs that qualify as a disability under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act shall be provided reasonable accommodation or services, as appropriate, in accordance with his/her accommodation plan or individualized education program.~~

Students shall not be excluded from school activities or otherwise discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied because of ~~based solely on~~ their food allergy.

Any complaint of alleged noncompliance with this policy shall be addressed through appropriate district complaint procedures.

The district's food services program may, but is not required to, accommodate individual student preferences or diets that are not supported by a statement from the student's health care provider.

Legal Reference:EDUCATION CODE234.1 *Prohibition against discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying*49407 *Liability for treatment*49408 *Emergency information*49414 *Emergency epinephrine auto-injectors*49423 *Administration of prescribed medication for student*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5600-611 *Administering medication to students*15562 *Reimbursement for meals, substitutions*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 201232g *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974*1400-1482 *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
701-795a Rehabilitation Act, including:
794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1751-1769h National School Lunch Program
1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:
1773 School Breakfast Program
12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7
210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
220.1-220.21 National School Breakfast Program
225.16 Meal programs, individual substitutions

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Training Standards for the Administration of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors, December 2004

FOOD ALLERGY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

School Guidelines for Managing Students with Food Allergies

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Legal and Practical Issues Relating to Accommodating Students with Peanut Allergies, Inquiry and Analysis, April 2009

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS

Accommodating Children with Special Dietary Needs in the School Nutrition Programs: Guidance for School Food Service Staff, 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter and Questions and Answers on ADA Amendments Act of 2008 for Students with Disabilities

Attending Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, January 2012

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Health Services: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn>

Food Allergy Research and Education: <http://www.foodallergy.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.fns.usda.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

**Policy SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: August 19, 2009 Santa Monica, California**