

NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL INTERMEDIATE UNIT 19

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: FREE/REDUCED-PRICE MEALS
AND FREE MILK

ADOPTED: June 26, 2012

REVISED:

808.1. FREE/REDUCED-PRICE MEALS AND FREE MILK	
<p>1. Authority 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758 7 CFR Part 245</p>	<p>The Board shall provide free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk to students in accordance with the terms and conditions of the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program.</p>
<p>2. Definition 7 CFR Sec. 210.2</p>	<p>Point of service - the point in the food service operation where a determination can accurately be made that a reimbursable free, reduced-price or paid lunch has been served to any eligible student.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Executive Director or designee shall review applications for free or reduced-price meals and/or free milk and make determinations of eligibility.</p> <p>The Executive Director or designee shall develop and disseminate administrative regulations that establish procedures in accordance with the terms and conditions of the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program. Administrative regulations should include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application procedures, including procedures for approval, denial and verification of applications. 2. An appeals process for parents/guardians to appeal the Intermediate Unit's decision regarding eligibility. 3. Method of retaining records required by this policy. 4. Procedures for disclosure of information, including what information can be disclosed with or without consent from the parent/guardian. 5. Procedures for compliance with nondiscrimination practices as well as procedures for receiving and processing discrimination complaints.

<p>4. Guidelines</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758 7 CFR Sec. 245.5</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758</p> <p>7 CFR Sec. 245.7</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758</p>	<p>6. Procedures for collecting money from students or parents/guardians eligible for reduced-price meals because of an outstanding balance in the student’s account.</p> <p>7. Method by which the Intermediate Unit will keep an accurate count of meals served in the Intermediate Unit building.</p> <p><u>General Requirements</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall publish and disseminate information about free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk and the income eligibility guidelines on or before the first day of school by sending a letter to parents/guardians and issuing a public media release to the local news media, local unemployment offices and major employers contemplating or experiencing large layoffs.</p> <p><u>Application Procedures</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall provide all parents/guardians with program application forms on or before the first day of school, upon enrollment, or whenever there is a change in eligibility criteria.</p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall approve, deny and verify applications in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.</p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall inform parents/guardians of their eligibility status.</p> <p><u>Confidentiality/Disclosure Of Eligibility</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall only release a student’s name, eligibility status, and other information provided on the application, or obtained through direct certification or verification, if disclosure of such information is specifically authorized by law.</p> <p><u>Appeals</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall establish an appeals process under which a parent/guardian may appeal a decision regarding his/her initial application for benefits, or any subsequent reduction or termination of benefits.</p> <p><u>Meal Pricing</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall set reduced-price charges for lunch and breakfast at or below the maximum reduced price allowed by federal regulations and below the full price of lunch or breakfast.</p>
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<p>7 CFR Sec. 210.10 Pol. 103.1</p>	<p>The Intermediate Unit shall make meal substitutions at no extra charge to eligible students who require such modifications because of a disability.</p>
<p>7 CFR Sec. 210.7</p>	<p><u>Counting/Claiming</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of the free and reduced-price meals eligibility roster.</p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall implement an approved counting system that provides an accurate count at the point of service of free, reduced-price and paid meals in the Intermediate Unit building.</p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall claim reimbursement only for reimbursable meals served to eligible students.</p>
<p>SC 1337 7 CFR Sec. 210.9, 210.20, 245.6a Pol. 800</p>	<p><u>Records Retention</u></p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall retain all free and reduced-price meal applications for a minimum of three (3) and not in excess of five (5) years after the final claim is submitted for the fiscal year to which they pertain. If a federal audit is being conducted, records must be kept until the audit is completed.</p>
<p>SC 1337 7 CFR Sec. 210.9, 210.10, 210.20</p>	<p>The Intermediate Unit shall retain production and menu records for the meals they produce for a minimum of three (3) and not in excess of five (5) years.</p> <p><u>Nondiscrimination</u></p>
<p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758 7 CFR Sec. 245.8 Pol. 103</p>	<p>The Intermediate Unit shall ensure that, in the operation of the free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk programs, no student shall be discriminated against because of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.</p> <p>The Intermediate Unit shall treat students who receive free or reduced-price meals and/or free milk in the same manner as those students who pay full price for their meals.</p>

The Intermediate Unit shall take such actions as are necessary to ensure that the names of students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals and/or milk shall not be published, posted, or announced in any manner and there shall be no overt identification by the use of special tokens or tickets or any other means.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1335, 1337

School Lunch and Breakfast Programs – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758

National Food Service Programs, Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations –
7 CFR Part 210, Part 215, Part 220, Part 245

Board Policy – 000, 103, 800, 808