

FOOD AND NUTRITION MANAGEMENT  
FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

COB  
(LOCAL)

**Eligibility Appeals**

The District shall provide a hearing process in compliance with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) requirements for disputes about a student's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal programs. A parent or student may appeal the decision of the hearing official in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

**Civil Rights  
Complaints**

A person alleging discrimination in school meal programs based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability shall be informed of the procedures and right to file a complaint with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Food and Nutrition office and the USDA. Complaints received by District personnel shall be forwarded to TDA.

FOOD AND NUTRITION MANAGEMENT  
PROCUREMENT

COA  
(LOCAL)

**Procurement**

The Superintendent shall oversee the use of federal child nutrition funds to procure appropriate goods and services necessary for providing food service to students and shall develop and enforce financial management systems, internal control procedures, procurement procedures, and other administrative procedures as needed to comply with all state and federal requirements for use of these funds.

[See CO(LEGAL) and COA(LEGAL)]

**Geographic  
Preference**

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to determine whether the District will apply a geographic preference when procuring unprocessed, locally grown or locally raised agricultural products and to:

1. Specify the types of products for which any geographic preference will be applied; and
2. Define the geographic area to be preferred for each applicable product.

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**Food Donation**

The Superintendent shall be authorized to develop regulations for the District to donate or otherwise dispose of leftover food in accordance with law.

**Meal Charges**

State Law

As established by the Board, a student with an exhausted or insufficient balance on his or her meal card or meal account shall be allowed to continue to purchase meals for up to five school days. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations for this grace period to address:

1. The District's processes for parent notification during the grace period, including a schedule for repayment; and
2. Whether the student will be limited to certain foods or beverages during this grace period, and, if so, the District's efforts to minimize overt identification of the student.

No fees or interest shall be charged by the District for meals purchased during the grace period.

Federal Law

For each campus that participates in the federal school breakfast or lunch programs under which students may incur a meal charge, the District's administrative regulations shall also address procedures for a student who has insufficient funds to purchase a meal following exhaustion of the grace period described above. The procedures shall address:

1. The parameters under which meals shall be served to the student;
2. The District's efforts to minimize overt identification of the student; and
3. How the District will attempt to collect unpaid debt in order to maintain the financial integrity of the food service account.