

## **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

### **FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND**

The Governing Board intends that, insofar as possible, school food services shall be a self-supporting, nonprofit program. To increase cost effectiveness, the Superintendent or designee shall centralize and direct the purchasing of foods and supplies, the planning of menus, and the auditing of all food service accounts for the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all food services administrators and personnel possess appropriate qualifications and receive ongoing professional development related to the effective management and implementation of the district's food services program.

#### **Meal Sales**

Meals may be sold to students, district employees, Board members, and employees or members of the fund or association maintaining the cafeteria. (Education Code 38082)

In addition, meals may be sold to other individuals and organizations that are on campus during meal times for a legitimate purpose, such as classroom volunteers, parents/guardians, or students' siblings.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend meal prices, based on the costs of providing food services and consistent with Education Code 38084 and 42 USC 1760, for students and nonstudents for approval by the Board. Students who are enrolled in the free or reduced-price meal programs shall receive meals free of charge or at a reduced price in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Any meals served to nonstudents shall not be subsidized by federal or state reimbursements, food service revenues, or U.S. Department of Agriculture foods.

#### **Cafeteria Fund**

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a cafeteria fund independent of the district's general fund.

The wages, salaries, and benefits of food service employees shall be paid from the cafeteria fund. (Education Code 38103)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that state and federal funds provided through school meal programs are allocated only for purposes related to the operation or improvement of food services and reasonable and necessary indirect program costs as allowed by law. Program financial reports shall be presented regularly to the Board.

**FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)**

**Contracts with Outside Services**

With Board approval, the district may enter into a contract for food service consulting services or food service management services in one or more district schools. (Education Code 45103.5; 42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 210.16)

- (cf. 3100 - Budget)
- (cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)
- (cf. 3311 - Bids)
- (cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
- (cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
- (cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
- (cf. 4331 - Staff Development)
- (cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
- (cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)
- (cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)
- (cf. 3312 - Contracts)
- (cf. 3600 - Consultants)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 38080-38086 Cafeteria, establishment and use
- 38090-38095 Cafeterias, funds and accounts
- 38100-38103 Cafeterias, allocation of charges
- 42646 Alternate payroll procedure
- 45103.5 Contracts for management consulting services; restrictions
- 49490-49493 School breakfast and lunch programs
- 49500-49505 School meals
- 49554 Contract for services

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

- 113700-114437 California Retail Food Code

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 1751-1769j School lunch programs
- 1771-1791 Child nutrition, including:

- 1773 School breakfast program

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

- 255 Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

- 210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
- 220.1-220.21 National School Breakfast Program
- 250.1-250.70 USDA foods

Management Resources:

**FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MANAGEMENT BULLETINS

USDA-FDP-02-2010 Storage and Inventory Management of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Donated Foods, August 2010

USDA-SNP-01-2008 Clarification for the Use of Alternate Meals in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; and the Handling of Unpaid Meal Charges, February 2008

00-111 Adult and Sibling Meals in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, July 2000

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

California School Accounting Manual

Food Distribution Program Administrative Manual

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GUIDANCE

FAQs About School Meals

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division:  
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>

California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd>

(6/88 6/96) 11/96

3/01 12/19/01

(6/96 3/01) 11/07

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## **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

### **FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND**

#### **Payments for Meals**

With the exception of students who are eligible to receive meals at no cost, students may pay on a per-meal basis or may submit payments in advance. The Superintendent or designee shall maintain an account indicating payments received from each student for the purchase of school meals.

At the beginning of the school year, parents/guardians shall be notified of the district's meal payment policies and encouraged to prepay for meals whenever possible.

Students and their parents/guardians shall be notified whenever their account has a zero balance. Whenever a student's account has an unpaid balance of \$50 or more, parents/guardians shall be notified in writing that full payment is due within seven school days from the date of the notice.

In cases of repeated nonpayment by a student, the Superintendent or designee may contact parents/guardians to discuss the reasons for the nonpayment. The Superintendent or designee may evaluate individual circumstances to determine if the student's parents/guardians need assistance completing an application for free or reduced-price meals or need referral to social services.

In any school that uses a system of meal tickets or other similar medium of exchange rather than an electronic point-of-sale system, a student shall be allowed at least three replacement tickets each school year in the event that tickets are lost or stolen. School staff shall maintain a list of students who have reported lost or stolen tickets and the number of occurrences for each student. When it has been determined that a student has reached the limit, school staff shall issue at least one advance warning to the student or his/her parent/guardian prior to denying a replacement ticket. However, prekindergarten and younger primary students or students with disabilities who may be unable to take full responsibility for their meal tickets shall not be denied meals when tickets are lost or stolen.

Students and parents/guardians shall be advised in writing of the school's policy regarding replacement tickets at the beginning of the school year and/or when applications for free and reduced-price meals are distributed or approved.

#### **Reimbursement Claims**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records of the number of meals served each day by school site and by category of free, reduced-price, and full-price meals. The Superintendent or designee shall submit reimbursement claims for school meals to the California Department of Education (CDE) using the online Child Nutrition Information and Payment System.

**FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)**

**Cafeteria Fund**

All proceeds from food sales and other services offered by the cafeteria shall be deposited in the cafeteria fund as provided by law. The income and expenditures of any cafeteria revolving account established by the Governing Board shall be recorded as income and expenditures of the cafeteria fund. (Education Code 38090, 38091, 38092)

The cafeteria fund shall be used only for those expenditures authorized by the Board as necessary for the operation of school cafeterias in accordance with Education Code 38100-38103, 2 CFR 255, and the California School Accounting Manual. (Education Code 38091, 38101; 2 CFR 255)

Any charges to, or transfers from, a food service program shall be dated and accompanied by a written explanation of the expenditure's purpose and basis. (Education Code 38101)

**U.S. Department of Agriculture Foods**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that foods received through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are handled, stored, and distributed in facilities which: (7 CFR 250.14)

1. Are sanitary and free from rodent, bird, insect, and other animal infestation
2. Safeguard foods against theft, spoilage, and other loss
3. Maintain foods at proper storage temperatures
4. Store foods off the floor in a manner to allow for adequate ventilation
5. Take other protective measures as may be necessary

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain inventories of USDA foods in accordance with 7 CFR 250.59 and CDE procedures, and shall ensure that foods are used before their expiration dates.

USDA foods shall be used in school lunches as far as practicable, but also may be used in other nonprofit food service activities, with any revenues accruing to the district's nonprofit food service account. Such activities may include school breakfasts or other meals, a la carte foods sold to students, meals served to adults directly involved in the operation and administration of the food service and to other school staff, and training in nutrition, health, food service, or general home economics instruction for students. (7 CFR 250.60)

**FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)**  
**Contracts with Outside Services**

The term of any contract for food service management or consulting services shall not exceed one year. Any renewal of the contract or further requests for proposals to provide such services shall be considered on a year-to-year basis. (Education Code 45103.5; 7 CFR 210.16)

Any contract for management of the food service operation shall be approved by CDE and comply with the conditions in Education Code 49554 and 7 CFR 210.16 as applicable. The district shall retain control of the quality, extent, and general nature of its food services, including prices to be charged to students for meals, and shall monitor the food service operation through periodic on-site visits. The district shall not enter into a contract with a food service company to provide a la carte food services only, unless the company agrees to offer free, reduced-price, and full-price reimbursable meals to all eligible students. (Education Code 49554; 42 USC 1758; 7 CFR 210.16)

Any contract for consulting services shall not result in the supervision of food service classified staff by the management consultant, nor shall it result in the elimination of any food service classified staff or position or have any adverse effect on the wages, benefits, or other terms and conditions of employment of classified food service staff or positions. All persons providing consulting services shall be subject to applicable employment conditions related to health and safety as listed in Education Code 45103.5. (Education Code 45103.5)

- (cf. 3312 - Contracts)
- (cf. 3515.6 - Criminal Background Checks for Contractors)
- (cf. 3600 - Consultants)
- (cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)
- (cf. 4212 - Appointments and Conditions of Employment)
- (cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
- (cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
- (cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
- (cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)
- (cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
- (cf. 3100 - Budget)
- (cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)
- (cf. 3110 - Transfer of Funds)