

FOOD ALLERGIES

As mandated by Section 3313.719 of the Ohio Revised Code, this policy is intended to create a framework for accommodating students with food allergies and to reduce the likelihood of allergic reactions of students with known food allergies while at school.

A. Parent/guardian and student responsibilities

1. Parents and guardians of students with allergies, or students with allergies age eighteen or older, shall:
 - a. Notify the school principal and/or school nurse when they become aware that their student has a food allergy and at the beginning of each school year thereafter. The notice shall include a healthcare provider-documented allergy and a diet modification order as necessary.
 - b. Provide the district with prescribed emergency medications.
 - c. Provide all appropriate completed medication authorization forms.
2. Parent and guardians will be responsible for educating their student about self-management of his/her food allergy at school. This includes, without limitation:
 - a. Recognizing safe and unsafe allergens.
 - b. Identifying strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe allergens.
 - c. Recognizing symptoms of allergic reactions.
 - d. Alerting an adult to the fact they may be having an allergy-related reaction.
 - e. Reading food labels (age appropriate) and/or be aware of environmental triggers.
 - f. Never sharing personal items including food, eating utensils, medication, etc.

B. District responsibilities

1. The district will provide personnel to develop a Food Allergy Action Plan, in collaboration with parent/guardian, student, and healthcare provider. The food allergy action plan will address the actions to be taken to reduce exposure at school.
 - a. The team will also develop, as appropriate, an Emergency Care Plan that will address actions to be taken in the event of exposure.
 - b. With parental consent, the district will share the Food Allergy Action Plan and Emergency Care Plan (if applicable) with the appropriate school staff.

- c. The Plan(s) will be effective for the school year in which they are developed and shall be, if necessary, revised at the beginning of each following school year.
2. The district will,
- a. Ensure that at least one employee, who has received instruction in the recognition of food allergy reactions, will be present when students are being served food during the regular school day.
 - b. Post procedures concerning the provision of food and information on food allergies in staff handbooks and on its website.
 - c. Be responsible for following cleaning and sanitation protocol to avoid cross contamination.
 - d. Be knowledgeable about and follow applicable federal laws including American Disabilities Act (ADA), Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Education Act (IDIEA), Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and any state laws or district policies that apply.

[Adoption date: November 28, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: Child Nutrition Act of 1966; 42 USC 1771 et seq.
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 794
ORC 3313.719; 3313.81; 3313.812; 3313.813
3314.03
3326.11
OAC 3301-91-01 through 3301-91-08

CROSS REFS.: EF/EFB, Food Services Management/Free and Reduced Price Food Services
JHC, Student Health Services and Requirements