

CSBA Sample Board Policy

Business and Noninstructional Operations

BP 3551(a)

FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND

Note: The following **optional** policy may be revised to reflect district practice. Pursuant to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Memorandum SP 46-2016, districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program (42 USC 1751-1769j, 1773) are mandated to adopt policy addressing delinquent meal charges; see the section "Meal Sales" below and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Pursuant to 7 CFR 210.9, 210.14, and 220.7, districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program (~~42 USC 1751-1769j, 1773~~) must maintain a nonprofit school food service program. Revenues received through the program may be used **only** for the operation or improvement of the food service program, ~~except that such revenues must not be used to~~ **but not to construct buildings. Revenues also may not be used to** purchase land or buildings, **unless otherwise approved by the USDA.** ~~or construct buildings unless otherwise approved.~~ Authorized expenditures are defined in the California Department of Education's (CDE) California School Accounting Manual.

The Governing Board intends that school food services shall be a self-supporting, nonprofit program. To ensure program quality and 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.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)

(cf. 3311 - Bids)

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

Note: Pursuant to 42 USC 1776, the USDA has established minimum professional standards for food service personnel. With approval from the CDE, more flexible standards may be used in districts with average daily attendance of less than 500 or in districts of any size when hiring a new acting food services director. For more information about professional standards for food service directors, see CDE's Management Bulletin SNP-17-2016.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all food service personnel possess **appropriate the required** qualifications and receive ongoing professional development related to the effective management and implementation of the district's food service program **in accordance with law.**

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Program (42 USC 1751-1769j, 1773). Pursuant to 42 USC 1776, such districts must ensure that food

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service personnel **and other appropriate personnel** who conduct or oversee administrative

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

procedures **and other appropriate personnel** receive training on administrative practices (i.e., training in application, certification, verification, meal counting, and meal claiming procedures) at least once each year. In addition, all food service personnel are required to receive annual training that (1) is designed to improve the accuracy of approvals for free and reduced-price meals and the identification of reimbursable meals at the point of service and (2) includes modules on nutrition, health and food safety standards and methodologies, and any other appropriate topics as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The CDE provides online training that meets these requirements; see the CDE's web site.

In addition, on a date to be determined by the U.S. Secretary pursuant to 42 USC 1776, food service directors will be required to meet minimum requirements related to education, training, and certification.

At least once each year, food service administrators, other appropriate personnel who conduct or oversee administrative procedures, and other food service personnel shall receive training provided by the California Department of Education (CDE). (42 USC 1776)

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)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**. Pursuant to Education Code 38082, the Governing Board may, by formal resolution, authorize the serving of meals to persons other than those listed above. In Management Bulletin No. 00-111, the CDE states that the Board's policy or resolution must specify the circumstances under which those other persons will be served and indicates that using funds from the National School Lunch or Breakfast Program to serve any nonstudent would be contrary to program goals.

In addition, meals may be sold to nonstudents, including parents/guardians, volunteers, students' siblings, or other individuals, who are on campus for a legitimate purpose. Any meals served to nonstudents shall not be subsidized by federal or state reimbursements, food service revenues, or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) foods.

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 38084, the district may determine meal prices consistent with the goal of paying the costs of maintaining the cafeterias (exclusive of the costs of housing and equipping cafeterias, or other costs determined by **Governing** Board resolution, pursuant to Education Code 38100).

Students who meet federal eligibility criteria for the reduced-price meal program cannot be charged more than the amounts listed in 42 USC 1758 and 1773; see AR 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals. **In setting prices for students who are not eligible for the free and reduced-price meal program, 42 USC 1760 requires schools to charge those students a price that is, on average, equal to the difference between free meal reimbursement and paid meal reimbursement. Schools that charge less than the average are required to gradually increase their prices over time until they meet the requirement or may cover the difference with nonfederal funds. 42 USC 1760 provides that the price shall generally not increase more than 10 cents each year, but allows districts to**

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establish a higher increase at their discretion. For information about setting prices for full-price meals, see 42 USC 1760 and CDE Management Bulletin USDA-SNP-16-2012.

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

Meal prices, as recommended by the Superintendent or designee and approved by the Board, shall be based on the costs of providing food services and consistent with Education Code 38084 and 42 USC 1760.

Note: Education Code 49557 requires the Board to approve a plan that ensures students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals are not treated differently from other students, including, but not limited to, assurance that eligible students will not be overtly identified by the use of special tokens, tickets, or any other means. For additional language addressing this requirement, see BP/AR 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals.

Students who are enrolled in the free or reduced-price meal program shall receive meals free of charge or at a reduced price in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. **Such students shall not be overtly identified or treated differently from other students.**

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Note: Pursuant to USDA Memorandum SP 46-2016, districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast program are mandated to have a written and clearly communicated meal charge policy which includes, but is not limited to, policy on the collection of delinquent meal charge debt. Pursuant to CDE Management Bulletin SNP-03-2017, the district's unpaid meals policy must ensure that students with unrecovered or delinquent debt are not overtly identified. See the accompanying administrative regulation for additional language fulfilling this mandate.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish strategies and procedures for the collection of meal payments, including delinquent meal payments, and shall clearly communicate these procedures and related district policies to students and parents/guardians. The procedures adopted by the Superintendent or designee shall conform with 2 CFR 200.426 and any applicable CDE guidance, and shall not overtly identify students with unrecovered or delinquent debt or treat them differently than other students.

Cafeteria Fund

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 38090, money received for the sale of food or for any services performed by the cafeterias may be paid into the county treasury to the credit of a "cafeteria fund" for the district.

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

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

Note: Education Code 38103 allows the Board, at its discretion and with the approval of the County Superintendent of Schools who is responsible for a countywide payroll/retirement system under Education Code 42646, to have wages, salaries, and benefits of food service employees paid either from the district's general fund (Option 1 below) or from the district's cafeteria fund (Option 2).

~~**OPTION 1:** The wages, salaries, and benefits of food service employees shall be paid from the district's general fund. At any time, the Board may order reimbursement from the district's cafeteria fund for these payments in amounts prescribed by the Board and not exceeding the costs actually incurred. (Education Code 38103)~~

OPTION 2: The wages, salaries, and benefits of food service employees shall be paid from the cafeteria fund. (Education Code 38103)

Comment [J1]: Option 2 selected, all compensation is paid from the cafeteria fund.

Note: The following **optional** paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice. **2 CFR 225 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII** and **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** guidance, Indirect Costs: Guidance for State Agencies and School Food Authorities, provide information regarding allowable indirect costs that may be charged to the nonprofit school food service account. Also see the accompanying administrative regulation.

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.

(cf. 3230 - Federal Grant Funds)

(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

Contracts with Outside Services

Note: The following section is **optional**. Pursuant to Education Code 45103.5, the district is authorized to contract for consulting services related to food service management. 42 USC 1758, 7 CFR 210.16, and Education Code 45103.5 authorize a district, under specified conditions and with approval of the CDE, to contract with a food service management company to manage its food service operation in one or more of its schools. See the accompanying administrative regulation for related requirements.

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

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3600 - Consultants)

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

Procurement of Foods

Note: The following section is for districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Program (42 USC 1751-1769j, 1773). Pursuant to 7 CFR 210.21, districts are required to comply with all requirements for purchasing commercial food products served in the school meals programs, including those outlined in the Buy American provision. This provision indicates that a district participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Program or any entity purchasing food on its behalf must, to the maximum extent practicable, purchase domestically grown and processed foods, as defined. According to USDA Memorandum SP-24-2016, a domestic commodity or product is deemed to be "substantially using" domestic agricultural commodities when over 51 percent of the final processed product consists of agricultural commodities produced in the United States.

To the maximum extent practicable, foods purchased for use in school meals by the district or by any entity purchasing food on its behalf shall be domestic commodities or products. Domestic commodity or product means an agricultural commodity that is produced in the United States and a food product that is processed in the United States substantially using agricultural commodities that are produced in the United States. (42 USC 1760; 7 CFR 210.21)

Note: The following paragraph reflects limited exceptions to the Buy American requirement, as described in USDA Memorandum SP-24-2016. If the district is using one of these exceptions, it must maintain documentation justifying the exception(s).

A nondomestic food product may be purchased for use in the district's food service program only as a last resort when the product is not produced or manufactured in the United States in sufficient and reasonable quantities of a satisfactory quality, or when competitive bids reveal the costs of a United States product are significantly higher than the nondomestic product. In such cases, the Superintendent or designee shall retain documentation justifying the exception.

Program Monitoring and Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall present to the Board, at least annually, financial reports regarding revenues and expenditures related to the food service program.

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Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that have one or more schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Seamless Summer Feeding Option, and/or other federal meal program. The state monitoring process (the Administrative Review) includes a review of district compliance with requirements for federal meal programs, including a review of resource management in the food service program as provided in the following paragraph. Each district is reviewed at least once every three years. **See the CDE's nutrition services web site for a current list of documents that may be requested for the review.** ~~USDA correspondence dated August 30, 2013, provides a list of documents that may be requested by the CDE for the review.~~

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

During the Administrative Review, CDE will review district policies on charge accounts, alternate meals, and guidelines for continually notifying parents/guardians of these policies. USDA Memorandum SP 23-2017 adds a requirement to maintain and submit the district's policy on unpaid meal charges to the CDE during the Administrative Review.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide all necessary documentation required for the Administrative Review conducted by the CDE to ensure compliance of the district's food service program with federal requirements related to maintenance of the nonprofit school food service account, **meal charges**, paid lunch equity, revenue from nonprogram goods, indirect costs, and USDA foods.

(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

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

49550-49562 Meals for needy students

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

113700-114437 California Retail Food Code

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs

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

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200.56 Indirect costs, definition
200.400-200.475 Cost principles
200 Appendix VII Indirect cost proposals
225 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: (see next page)

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FOOD SERVICE OPERATIONS/CAFETERIA FUND (continued)

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
California School Accounting Manual
Food Distribution Program Administrative Manual
Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies, Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments, and Excess Student Account Balances, Management Bulletin, SNP-03-2017, April 2017
Clarification for the Use of Alternate Meals in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, Bad Debt Policies, and the Handling of Unpaid Meal Charges, Management Bulletin USDA-SNP-06-2015, May 2015
Cafeteria Funds--Allowable Uses, Management Bulletin NSD-SNP-07-2013, May 2013
Paid Lunch Equity Requirement, Management Bulletin USDA-SNP-16-2012, October 2012
Storage and Inventory Management of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Donated Foods, Management Bulletin USDA-FDP-02-2010, August 2010
Management Bulletin USDA-SNP-01-2008, February 2008
Adult and Sibling Meals in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, Management Bulletin 00-111, July 2000
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS
Financial Management of the School Meal Programs, Correspondence, August 30, 2013
FAQs About School Meals
Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A, SP 23-2017, March 2017
Indirect Costs: Guidance for State Agencies and School Food Authorities SP 60-2016, September 2016
Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation's Schools, September 2016
Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies, SP 46-2016, July 2016
Compliance with and Enforcement of the Buy American Provision in the National School Lunch Program, SP 24-2016, February 2016
Discretionary Elimination of Reduced Price Charges in the School Meal Programs, SP 17-2014, January 2014
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>

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

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

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Policy Reference UPDATE Service

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