

Adopted: December 15, 2014

Revised: October 20, 2025
December 21, 2020
December 19, 2016

563 - Randolph School District Special Dietary Requirements Policy

The goal of the following policy is to assist identified students with severe allergies or special dietary requirements.

It is the parent's responsibility to inform the school district including the principal, school nurse and food service director, in writing if a student has a legit severe disability that would prohibit consumption of the school lunch, breakfast or other foodservice prepared foods.

According to the National School Lunch Program Act, we are required to adhere to specific Federal Regulations in accommodating students with a disability only if the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal. Generally, children with food allergies or intolerances do not have a disability as defined in any of the Acts or Laws. However, when food allergies result in severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reactions, the child's condition would meet the definition of "disability" and the substitutions prescribed by the Registered Dietician, Physician, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Practitioner must be made.

Once a child has been diagnosed with a severe food allergy or intolerance a Special Diet Statement form, from the school food service, must be filled out by a Registered Dietician, Physician, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Practitioner and is only for a participant with a disability that affects the diet. This form must be:

- Completed and signed by a Registered Dietician, Physician, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Practitioner.
- Submitted to food service coordinator and school nurse before any meal modifications will be made according to USDA Child Nutrition Guidelines.
- Updated whenever the participant's diagnosis or special diet changes.

Randolph Public Schools will provide lactose-free milk for children with lactose intolerance. Parents can request lactose-free milk for their student by submitting a written request. This request does not have to be renewed annually as long as there are no changes.

Randolph School District acknowledges the following:

1. Recognize that peanuts, peanut products, tree nuts and tree nut products can be associated with the most severe allergic reactions, and they shall not knowingly be used for foodservice meals or instructional purposes, with the exception of prepackaged breakfast and ala carte items offered to grades 6-12.

2. School personnel will not attempt to determine whether foods brought to school from an outside source are safe for an allergic child to consume.
3. School personnel will put in place the Registered Dietician, Physician, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Practitioner plan, in collaboration with the school nurse, parent(s), and student a written plan for the avoidance of offending foods by an identified allergic student. This plan will be communicated to all personnel with whom the student has contact with during the school day. Examples include avoidance of specific allergens specifically:
 - a. The provision to provide parents, staff and students with detailed information regarding the ingredients of school lunch or breakfast.
 - b. The provision of an identified allergen-free table in the cafeteria which is thoroughly washed prior to the first lunch shift, and in between lunch shifts when in use.
 - c. The provision for washing classroom desktops as necessary to remove identified allergens.
 - d. The provision for staff and students who have been in contact with an allergen to wash thoroughly before resuming contact with the identified student.
 - e. The provision on field trips, if the student will eat foods other than those brought from their own home, for the menu to be reviewed by a parent prior to the trip to determine if the menu is safe. If the parent is unable to determine if the menu is safe, they will be allowed to send an acceptable food with the student.
 - f. The provision of epinephrine to be available and provided by the parent, as required by the severity of the student's allergy.