

FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD SERVICESMEAL PROGRAM

~~An adequate nutrition program is essential to a student's growth and development and influences his achievement in school. In the belief that every school student should have an adequate lunch, the Board will provide a free or reduced-price lunch program to those eligible students at schools that operate as part of the National School Lunch Program. For those schools operating a food service program not under the federal regulations of the National School Lunch Program, the system for administering free and/or reduced-price meals will be approved by the School Board.~~

~~The Board will enter into an annual agreement with the State Department of Education for the operation of the school lunch program, which obligates the Albemarle County Public Schools to observe the standards and minimum operating requirements established under the *National School Lunch Act*.~~

~~Under the *National School Lunch Act*, as amended, funds will be available for reimbursement to approved schools for student meals serving the required meal pattern.~~

~~In accordance with federal law and the Revised Regulations of the *National School Lunch Act* and the *Child Nutrition Act*, the Board will carry out all statutory requirements and will accept responsibility for providing free and reduced-price meals to eligible students in the schools.~~

~~Any amendments of or changes to this policy will be submitted to the state School Nutrition Office for approval prior to its taking effect in the Albemarle County Public Schools. When changes occur during the school year, parents and the news media will be notified.~~

The Albemarle County school division provides free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches to students according to the terms of the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program.

School officials determine student eligibility based on guidelines established by federal law. Eligible students are provided nutritionally acceptable meals free or at a reduced cost if state and federal resources for school food programs are available. The superintendent or designee establishes rules and procedures as needed to implement this policy.

The criteria for determining a student's eligibility and the procedures for securing free and reduced-price meals is publicly announced at the beginning of each school year and provided to parents of all children in attendance at Albemarle County public schools.

The students who participate in the free or reduced-cost meal programs are not overtly identified, distinguished or served differently than other students.

Adopted: July 1, 1993
Amended: August 8, 2002; October 11, 2012; March 12, 2015
Reviewed: January 22, 2004

Legal Refs.: 42 U.S.C. §§1758, 1772 and 1773
7 C.F.R. §§ 210.9, 220.20, 245.5, 245.8
Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-207.3
8 VAC 20-290-10

Cross Refs: JHCF, *Student Wellness*