

# WHAT'S NEW WITH SCHOOL NUTRITION

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM DECEMBER 2016

TOPICS INCLUDE: ON-SITE MONITORING, SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS, & PROCUREMENT

**Q1: Is there a separate form for On-Site monitoring for breakfast?**

**A1:** Yes there is. Here is the link to the breakfast on-site monitoring form:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program/administrative-review>

You will have to scroll down to the Breakfast on-site monitoring form and open it up.

**Q2: If a medical practitioner writes as a NON-disability to substitute almond milk and we provide lactaid milk and soy milk, do you have to provide the almond milk?**

**A2:** We recommend working with the medical practitioner and/or child's parents/guardians to determine whether lactose-free milk or soy milk is an acceptable substitute in this situation.

Until you get further clarification, however, you should accommodate based on the information written on the dietary request form.

**Q3: How do we accommodate forms in which parents state they cannot afford to go to the doctor and get the special dietary need form signed by a doctor? Or homeless students who do not have doctors?**

**A3:** SP59-2016 only addresses student disabilities when they are supported by a written statement from a state licensed healthcare professional. USDA has indicated that additional guidance on accommodating non-disabilities and/or those signed by individuals other than a licensed healthcare provider will be addressed in a separate memo. At this time special dietary requests that do not include a medical statement signed by a licensed medical practitioner may be accommodated within the USDA meal pattern whenever possible. For example if a household requests a "gluten-free" diet, but does not have a signed medical statement, the school could choose to make accommodations within the meal pattern such as substituting brown rice or corn tortillas in place grain products that contain wheat. Or in the case of a food allergy, the school can make substitutions for other foods within the meal pattern. For example, on a day when strawberries are on the menu, the school can serve peaches to a student with a strawberry allergy. In these situations it is critical to work closely with each household on a case by case basis to determine how best to meet the needs of the student.

**Q4: And did I hear you correct in that if we receive a statement from a licensed physician – even if not listed as a disability, we have to accommodate that? For example, no diagnosis of celiac disease, gluten intolerance, but mom wrote “gluten gives stomach aches and emotional breakdowns”... this was signed by a doctor.**

**A4:** If you have a dietary request form on file that is signed by a licensed medical practitioner, you must accommodate the request. The differentiation between “disability” and “non-disability” is no longer applicable. In the example provided, if the form was signed by a medical practitioner the request should be accommodated. You should follow up with the parent and/or practitioner to determine what foods should be substituted. USDA SP59-2016: The central concern for SFAs should be ensuring equal opportunity to participate in or benefit from the program rather than determining whether a particular physical or mental impairment is severe enough to qualify as a disability.

**Q5: Is the procurement review just for the food service department or on all school purchases?**

**A5:** The Procurement Review will only be looking at school purchases made out of the 'Fund 50' account (purchases related to food service).