



BEEVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSPIRING BOLD INNOVATIVE LEADERS

Mario Monjaras

Child Nutrition Director

605 N Tyler Street

Beeville, Texas 78102

361-362-6082 ext. 1061

mmonjaras@beevilleisd.net

Parents and Teachers FAQ

Question: Who regulates the school nutrition program(s) in local districts?

Answer: The United States Department of Agriculture regulates the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program. School Nutrition Programs also adhere to policies and regulations administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and local health departments.:

Question: How is the School Nutrition Program funded in local districts?

Answer: The School Nutrition Program is a federally funded program and self-sustaining operation. Therefore, local monies such as property and school taxes do not fund the school nutrition program.

Question: What is Special Provision 2 and when is a district eligible to implement this Special Provision?

Answer: The National School Lunch Program regulations contain a clause known as Special Assistance Provision 2. In accordance with this provision, meals are served free to all students.

Question: What if my child is allergic to milk, peanuts, etc.?

Answer: Schools participating in USDA's School Lunch and School Breakfast programs may be required to accommodate the special dietary needs of children with allergies. A recognized medical authority, such as a physician, must provide a written diet



BEEVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSPIRING BOLD INNOVATIVE LEADERS

Mario Monjaras

Child Nutrition Director
605 N Tyler Street
Beeville, Texas 78102
361-362-6082 ext. 1061
mmonjaras@beevilleisd.net

prescription. The diet prescription should be specific and provide clear information about what foods are to be excluded from the child's diet. If replacing one food with another, this too must be included in the doctor's letter. For example, if the child has a milk allergy, then the doctor's note must include that milk is to be replaced with juice or water. The Child Nutrition Department staff should follow the regular menu whenever possible in accommodating children with allergies. Good communication with the child, parents or guardian, and school health team are important in providing a safe environment for a child with food allergies.

Question: What is the procedure for my child to receive a weight loss or diabetic meal plan?

Answer: Meal planning begins with the written diet order or prescription. If a recognized medical authority, such as a physician, has provided a written diet prescription for weight loss or diabetic meal plan, the first step is to submit the written diet order to the school nurse and cafeteria manager. The diet prescription should be specific and provide clear information about the child's diet. For example, the daily caloric level must be clearly defined, the current meal pattern for a diabetic diet must be provided, etc. The goal of meal planning is to provide the child with a nutritionally balanced meal that provides adequate calories for normal growth and development and, if the child is diabetic, promotes normal blood sugar levels.



BEEVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSPIRING BOLD INNOVATIVE LEADERS

Mario Monjaras

Child Nutrition Director

605 N Tyler Street

Beeville, Texas 78102

361-362-6082 ext. 1061

mmonjaras@beevilleisd.net

Diabetic Diet Prescription: The first step in working with a diabetic child, therefore, is to learn what method he or she is using. Depending on the variety of choices offered and the age and skill of the child in using exchanges or counting carbohydrates, the diabetic child may be able to manage his own meal planning without the school's providing a special tray or menu. The school health care team, including the Child Nutrition Staff, should still communicate with the child and parent or guardian to ensure that adequate provisions are being made at school to help the child to self-manage.

Question: Why do teachers, adults and visitors pay higher meal prices?

Answer: Student meals are subsidized by USDA commodities and state reimbursements. The state does not allow Teacher/Adult/Visitor meals receive such reimbursements; therefore, the price is slightly higher.

Question: What is commodity food and why do we use it?

Answer: Commodity food is food that is made available to school districts through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The amount of food that a school district receives is based on the number of student lunches served. The type of food offered is based upon the extra commodity food available throughout the country.

Question: Why can't outside food be use for fundraisers?



BEEVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSPIRING BOLD INNOVATIVE LEADERS

Mario Monjaras

Child Nutrition Director

605 N Tyler Street

Beeville, Texas 78102

361-362-6082 ext. 1061

mmonjaras@beevilleisd.net

Answer: The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has created a new set of guidelines for Texas Public Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program. In an effort to fight childhood obesity, these rules restrict parents, student groups, faculty and administration from selling or providing restricted items during meal times. For more information about the TDA Regulations, visit the TDA website at <https://squaremeals.org/>

Question: What does "offer vs. serve" mean?

Answer: Offer versus serve is a provision of the reimbursable meals program under which a student must or may be offered choices within complete meals but may select fewer items (three of five components at lunch and three of four components at breakfast) for the meal to qualify for federal subsidy.

The five components of the lunch meal include:

- meat or meat alternate
- fruit
- vegetable
- bread and grains
- milk



BEEVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSPIRING BOLD INNOVATIVE LEADERS

Mario Monjaras

Child Nutrition Director

605 N Tyler Street

Beeville, Texas 78102

361-362-6082 ext. 1061

mmonjaras@beevilleisd.net

As long as the student takes three of the five items, the meal will be counted as a complete meal and eligible for reimbursement.

The four components of the breakfast meal include:

- meat or meat alternate
- fruit
- vegetable
- bread and grains
- milk

As long as the student takes three of the four items, the meal will be counted as a complete meal and eligible for reimbursement.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: Program.Intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.