

PROVIDING MEAL SUBSTITUTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

Marion Community Schools Nutrition Department adheres to specific USDA guidelines in providing special diet accommodations for students. In accordance with the criteria set forth in 7 C.F.F part 15B, those students who are unable to eat the school meal due to a disability/medical need/ or impairment are accommodated, at no charge. Please review the following information if your child requires special diet consideration:

Per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, parents have a right to an evaluation of your child if the District has reason to believe that your child has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity (which can involve eating/digestion). You have the right to this evaluation before any plan for accommodation. Request for meal accommodations should be directed to your School Nurse and should include:

- Information about the child's physical or mental impairment that is sufficient to allow the SFA to understand how it restricts the child's diet.
- An explanation of what must be done to accommodate the child's disability, and
- The food or foods to be omitted and recommended alternatives, in the case of a modified meal.

The safety of your child comes first. If you have a child with a disability/medical need or impairment, please submit your request for accommodation here by completing the form and submitting to the school nurse.

The meal substitution/food allergy forms are posted online and are available from the school nurse. The forms are listed as follows:

1. Milk Substitution Form
2. Special Dietary Needs Medical Statement
3. Food Allergy/Disability Form for Physician Completion
4. The Discontinuation of Special Dietary Accommodations Form

If the household feels accommodations are not being met, they have the right to contact the 504 Coordinator and:

- File a grievance if they believe a violation has occurred regarding the request for a reasonable modification;
- Receive a prompt and equitable resolution of the grievance;
- Request and participate in an impartial hearing to resolve their grievances;
- Be represented by counsel at the hearing;
- Examine the record; and
- Receive notice of the final decision and a procedure for review, i.e., the right to appeal the hearing's decision.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.