

**FOOD ALLERGIES**

**FILE: EFAB**

**TITLE:**      **Definitions**

**POLICY:**

Definitions. For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1)      “Food allergy” means a specific type of adverse food reaction involving the immune system. A food allergy does not include non-medical food preferences that have no effect on the immune system.
- (2)      “Severe reaction” can include, but is not limited to: hives; flushed skin or rash; swelling of the lips, tongue and/or throat; shortness of breath or wheezing; feeling faint; loss of consciousness; and weak pulse.
- (3)      “Disabled person” means a student with a food allergy classified as a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or Part B of IDEA.

**TITLE:**      **Diet Modifications**

**POLICY:**

The School Board of Orange County, Florida (“Board”) has established the following policy with respect to food allergies that result in severe, life-threatening reactions.

- (1)      Substitutions shall be made to the standard meal requirement, at no additional charge, for students who are certified by a licensed physician as having a food allergy pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who have developed a Section 504 Plan along with the student’s Individual Education Plan (“IEP”). The medical certification must identify:
  - (a)      The student’s disability and major life activity affected by the disability;
  - (b)      An explanation of why the disability affects the student’s diet; and
  - (c)      The food(s) to be omitted from the student’s diet and suggested substitutions.
- (2)      Substitutions to the standard meal requirements may be made, at no additional charge, for students who are not “disabled persons,” but have a signed statement from a licensed physician or the student’s parent/guardian that the student cannot consume certain food items due to medical needs. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be asked to submit the Orange County Public Schools (“OCPS”) Diet Order Form, filled out by the student’s treating physician or the student’s parent/guardian, to the school’s food service manager on a yearly basis. The OCPS Diet Order Form will identify:
  - (a)      The medical need that restricts the student’s diet; and

- (b) The food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet.
- (3) The Food and Nutrition Service ("FNS") program will determine the menu to meet the student's food allergy needs according to the student's OCPS Diet Order Form, 504 Plan, or IEP Health Plan.
- (4) FNS will designate school site personnel who will document the procedure for serving students with a food allergy on file with the school.
- (5) The principal/designee will publicize the requirements for a diet modification for any student with a food allergy and follow the communication plan as determined by the school.

**SPECIFIC AUTHORITY:**

7 C.F.R. Part 15b

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

20 U.S.C. 1400, et seq.

ADOPTED: 10/12/93

REVISED: 06/26/18

**\*\*\*THE EXISTING LANGUAGE IN BOARD POLICY EFAB HAS BEEN ADOPTED INTO BOARD POLICY EF\*\*\***