

# Weakley County Board of Education



Monitoring:

Descriptor Term:

**Special Diet Accommodations**

Descriptor Code:

3.502

Issued Date:

6/3/2021

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2 Substitutions to meals for children with a disability will be made when supported by a written  
3 statement from a State-Recognized Medical Authority who is a licensed health care professional  
4 authorized to write medical prescriptions in Tennessee: Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of  
5 Osteopathy (DO), Physician's Assistant (PA) with prescriptive authority, Advanced Registered  
6 Nurse Practitioner (ARNP), Podiatrist (DPM), and Optometrist (OD).

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8 The medical statement must include a description of the child's physical or mental impairment  
9 that is sufficient to allow the SFA to understand how it restricts the child's diet. It must also  
10 include an explanation of what must be done to accommodate the disability. In other cases, more  
11 information may be required. In the case of food allergies, this means identifying the food or  
12 foods to be omitted and recommending alternatives. In the case of accommodating students with  
13 diabetes, this means specifying carb counts per meal.

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15 When the SFA believes the medical statement is unclear or lacks sufficient detail, additional  
16 information and appropriate clarification will be requested from the parent so that a proper and  
17 safe meal can be provided.

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19 Reasonable meal modifications for a student to accommodate a disability will be provided at no  
20 extra cost to the student or household when the disability restricts the child's diet.

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22 Parents or guardians may request modifications to meal service for children with disabilities by  
23 contacting the School Nutrition Director, the Nursing Supervisor, or the Section 504  
24 Coordinator. Special diet accommodations will be discontinued after 30 days if proper medical  
25 documentation is not received.

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27 Grievances related to requests for modifications based upon a disability will have access to  
28 impartial hearing process as described in Board Policy 1.802.

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Cross Reference:

1.802 504/ADA Grievance Procedures