

## **Special Dietary Needs for Students**

### **Policy:**

West Valley School District recognizes that students with special dietary needs and students with disabilities who have special dietary needs must be provided with healthy, safe meals.

Section 504, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and USDA regulations at 7CFR part 15b define a person with a disability as “any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, have a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.”

West Valley School District will make reasonable modifications to meals on a case-by-case basis to accommodate disabilities which restrict a child’s diet. Meals will be provided at no extra charge.

### **Procedures:**

To request a meal modification, a written medical statement or a completed [Dietary Prescription Form](#) must be submitted to the Child Nutrition office.

The medical statement must include:

- The food(s) to be omitted/avoided from the child’s diet;
- How the ingestion of the food impacts the child;
- Food(s) to be substituted.

Requests for meal modifications must be signed by a State-recognized medical authority, a licensed health care professional authorized to write medical prescriptions in Washington.

If the child’s individual health plan includes the information required in the medical statement, it is not necessary to submit a separate medical statement.

The request for meal modification will be:

1. Received by the Child Nutrition office,
2. Reviewed by the Child Nutrition director, building nurse, and 504 coordinator if applicable.
3. Students who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities will receive a meal modification on a case-by-case basis.
4. The family will be contacted by phone, email, or parent meeting to discuss the modifications.
5. Upon approval of the modifications, the Child Nutrition director will add a note to the student’s account. The Child Nutrition staff will also receive written notification regarding the student’s allergens and modifications.
6. Food preference will not be considered for modification. Requests for specific brands will not be honored unless the brand name item is medically necessary.
7. Request for cow’s milk substitution is not required. Soy milk is available to students at all schools during breakfast and lunch service.