

Nutrition Benefits

TAC § 89.1605

All students who are identified as homeless or in foster care are eligible for the US Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Program.

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must ensure there is an expedited process in place for all students who qualify to receive nutrition benefits upon enrollment. The process must expedite communication with the LEA nutrition coordinator to ensure that eligible students are not charged in error or experience delays in receiving these benefits.

Best Practices



Appropriate LEA or campus staff should immediately notify food services when a new student enrolls.



Verify student coding is in alignment with effective date.



Ensure student confidentiality.



Collaborate with your Nutrition Coordinator to establish processes, such as sending an approval notification via email.



LEAs should provide annual training to new and returning staff on nutrition eligibility and application processes.



REMINDER: Applications must be expedited when the student qualifies for SNAP benefits. Ensure systems and supports are student and family-centered!