

Special Diet Policy

Division of Food and Nutrition

Purpose

To establish Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy standard operating procedures for meal accommodations that ensures students with disabilities have an opportunity to participate in and benefit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs, which are the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), and the NSLP Afterschool Snacks.

Policy

Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy supports access to healthy meals to all students through participation in the NSLP/SBP. This includes ensuring students with disabilities as defined under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, have an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from the USDA Child Nutrition Programs.

Per USDA regulations 7 CFR Part 15b, Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy will make reasonable modifications to meals on a case-by case basis to accommodate students with disabilities including providing special dietary accommodations to students with a disability. A disability is an impairment, which substantially limits a major life activity, this can include allergies and digestive conditions.

Contact Information

Food Service Manager

James Carls. 950 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106, 702-638-0222,
James.Carls@rdacharter.org

504 Coordinator

Dr. Patrice Hall. 950 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106, 702-638-0222,
Patrice.Hall@rdacharter.org

Hearing Official

Janice D. Henry. 950 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106, 702-638-0222,
Janice.Henry@rdacharter.org

Procedure

1. Request for a Special Dietary Accommodation:
 - Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy makes exceptions for special diets for disability reasons on a case by case basis when supported by a written statement of the need for substitutions. The written statement must include:
 - Brief explanation of how impairment restricts the diet
 - Food(s) to be avoided

- Food(s) to be substituted
 - A student with a disability may have an IEP or 504 plan that requires specific instruction, services, or accommodation related to the student's nutritional needs. If a student's IEP or 504 plan contains the same information that is required on a Medical Statement for Special Dietary Needs, then it is not necessary to obtain and submit a separate Medical Statement for Special Dietary Needs.
 - Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy makes exceptions for special diets for non-disability reasons on a case by case basis when supported by a written statement of the need for substitutions, unless otherwise exempted by FNS, and signed by a recognized medical authority.
 - Rainbow Dreams Early Learning Academy may make substitutions for fluid milk for non-disabled students who cannot consume fluid milk due to medical or special dietary needs when supported by a written statement from a medical authority or legal guardian. The written statements must identify the medical or other special dietary need that restricts the child's diet. These substitutions meet the nutritional standards established in the above statement.
2. Submit request to Janice D. Henry. 950 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106, 702-638-0222, Janice.Henry@rdacharter.org
 3. Upon receipt of a request for a special dietary accommodation, the special dietary accommodation coordinator shall review the request to ensure it supports as required by federal law and district policy.
 4. Following USDA Child Nutrition Program regulations, the school district may consider factors such as cost and efficiency and is not required to prepare a specific meal, provide a specific brand of food, or provide a meal beyond the meals provided to other students.
 5. For students who have an IEP or 504 plan that requires specific food related accommodations, the school district shall provide the accommodation as required by law, seeking clarifying medical information, as necessary.
 6. Parents/guardians will be notified of clarifications needed or approval of a special dietary request within 7 days.
 7. A special dietary request or part of a request may be discontinued by a parent/guardian by submitting the request in writing to the special dietary accommodation coordinator

Complaints of Discrimination

Parents and guardians have the right to examine the record and file a grievance in situations where a requested modification is not granted. Please send all grievances to Kristy.Borg@rdacharter.org or the RDA Governing Board at Board@rdacharter.org.

USDA Non-discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.