

**Minimum Standards  
for School Nutrition  
Program Directors**

Each district must ensure that all newly hired school nutrition program directors meet minimum hiring standards and ensure that all new and existing directors have completed the minimum annual training/education requirements for school nutrition program directors, as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations. *7 C.F.R. 210.30*

**Texas Department of  
Agriculture School  
Nutrition Policies**

Districts must comply with rules adopted by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), which administers federal and state nutrition programs including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) under 42 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq.; and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) under 42 U.S.C. Section 1773. *Agriculture Code 12.0025*

Definitions

“School day” means the midnight before, to 30 minutes after, the end of the official school day.

“School campus” means all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.

*4 TAC 26.1*

Exempt Fundraisers

Schools that participate in the NSLP or SBP may sell food and beverages that do not meet nutritional standards outlined in 7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220 as part of a fundraiser, during the school day, for up to six days per school year on each school campus, provided that no specially exempted fundraiser foods or beverages may be sold in competition with school meals in the food service area during the meal service. *4 TAC 26.2*

Limitation on  
Sanctions

TDA may not impose on a district a sanction, including disallowing meal reimbursement, based on the sale to students at a high school of food of minimal nutritional value, if the sale is approved in advance by the school and is made:

1. Outside of a school area designated for food service or food consumption or during a period other than a school meal service period; and
2. For the purpose of raising money for a student organization or activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school or the school district in which the school is located.

*Agriculture Code 12.0028*

**Insufficient Meal  
Card Balance**

A district that allows students to use a prepaid meal card or account to purchase meals served at the school shall adopt a grace period policy regarding the use of the cards or accounts. The policy:

The Superintendent shall develop regulations regarding the use of a prepaid meal card or account to purchase meals served at school. The regulations shall address:

1. The length of the grace period during which a student may continue to purchase meals with a meal card or account that is exhausted or insufficient; and
  - a. All students are permitted to charge
  - b. Bills will be sent to the parent/guardian at the end of every month
  - c. Unpaid bills are billed to the parent/guardian in June of every year
  - d. Outstanding charges are reimbursed by the district to the cafeteria in August of every year
2. Parent notification in the event of an exhausted card or account, including a schedule for repayment.

No fees or interest shall be charged in connection with meals purchased with an exhausted card or account.