

Whitehall Central School District

The following is an excerpt from the USDA's manual on

"Accommodating Children with Special Dietary Needs in the School Nutrition Programs".

In Cases of Food Allergy

Generally, children with food allergies or intolerances do not have a disability as defined under either Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or Part B of IDEA, and the school food service may, but is not required to, make food substitutions for them.

However, when in the licensed physician's assessment, food allergies may result in severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reactions, the child's condition would meet the definition of "disability," and the substitutions prescribed by the licensed physician must be made.

OTHER SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

The school food service may make food substitutions, at their discretion, for individual children who do not have a disability, but who are medically certified as having a special medical or dietary need. Such determinations are only made on a case-by-case basis. This provision covers those children who have food intolerances or allergies but do not have life-threatening reactions (anaphylactic reactions) when exposed to the food(s) to which they have problems.

Medical Statement for Children with Special Dietary Needs Each special dietary request must be supported by a statement, which explains the food substitution that is requested. It must be signed by a recognized medical authority.

The medical statement must include:

- ✓ An identification of the medical or other special dietary condition which restricts the child's diet.
- ✓ The food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet.
- ✓ The food or choice of foods to be substituted.

***In the case of Milk allergy or intolerance, we can provide; Lactaid or Soy Milk when the proper documentation is provided.

Please note, that Juice and Water are not allowable substitutions for Milk in a students' reimbursable meal.

Deborah Mackey, CDM

Food Service Director 2018