

FOOD ALLERGY STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Serving Safe Food to Students with Food Allergies

PURPOSE: To serve safe and nutritious meals to students with food allergies.

SCOPE: This procedure applies to child nutrition employees involved in preparing and serving food to students with food allergies.

KEY WORDS: Allergies, Cleaning, Cross contact, Hand washing.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Follow policies and procedures of your child nutrition operation and school district.
2. Use your receiving procedures.
 - Check all ingredient labels each time a food is purchased.
 - Date each food item when received.
3. Store food items that contain allergens in a separate location from the non-allergenic items.
4. Keep ingredient labels for a minimum of 24 hours after serving the product.
5. Prevent cross contact during food preparation.
 - Wash hands before preparing foods.
 - Wear single-use gloves.
 - Use a clean apron when preparing allergen-free food.
 - Wash, rinse, and sanitize all cookware before and after each use.
 - Wash, rinse, and sanitize food contact surfaces.
 - Designate an allergy-free zone in the kitchen. When working with multiple food allergies, set up procedures to prevent cross contact within the allergy-free zone.
 - Prepare food items that do not contain allergens first. Label and store the allergen-free items separately.
 - Use a clean, sanitized cutting board when preparing food.
 - Use clean potholders and oven mitts for allergen-free foods to prevent cross contact.
6. Prevent cross contact during meal service.
 - Set aside food for students with food allergies from self-service food areas, such as salad bars, before the food is set out.
 - Use dedicated serving utensils and gloves for allergen-free foods.
 - Label items on the serving line correctly and clearly so that items containing food allergens are easily recognizable.
 - Ensure that tables and chairs are cleaned and sanitized before and after each meal and when needed.
7. Follow your school's procedures for identifying students with food allergies.

MONITORING: A child nutrition employee continually monitors receiving, preparation, and serving areas to assess whether food allergy procedures are being followed.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

1. Retrain any child nutrition employee found not following the procedures in this SOP.
2. Refrain from serving any food to a student with a food allergy if there is any question as to whether or not an allergen might be present in that particular food.
3. Activate the emergency action plan immediately if a student with the potential for anaphylaxis consumes a food allergen.

VERIFICATION AND RECORD KEEPING:

The child nutrition manager will observe child nutrition staff to make sure they are following these procedures and are taking all necessary corrective actions. Keep a list of corrective actions taken.

DATE IMPLEMENTED: _____ **BY:** _____

DATE REVIEWED: _____ **BY:** _____

DATE REVISED: _____ **BY:** _____

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