

I understand it is my responsibility to renew this form before each school year and anytime my child's medical needs change.

Parent Signature

Parent's Telephone Number

Date

Physician Signature:

Physician's Telephone Number:

Date:

Fax Completed Form to the number below:

Benavides ISD Food Service Department
106 W. School Street Benavides, TX 78341

Fax: (361) 256-3037
Telephone: (361) 256-3035

For Food Service Use Only

Date Received at FS Office _____

BENAVIDES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Child Nutrition Department

REQUESTING SPECIAL DIETARY MODIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS

The procedure below was developed to ensure that students receive adequate nutrition and that schools have the equipment and supplies necessary to meet their needs.

1. The first step in the process of requesting special dietary modifications is to print the "Special Diet Request Form" from the BISD website: www.benavidesisd.net.
2. The Special Diet Request Form must then be completed by the parent/guardian (Part A) and by a licensed physician or medical authority (Part B). The completed form should then be either faxed to the Child Nutrition Department.
3. Please allow a minimum of one week for the Special Diet Request Form to be processed. If your child has specific nutritional needs, please provide him or her with a nutritious breakfast and lunch until the arrangements for the special diet request have been made.
4. In an effort to meet the student's current needs, the Special Diet Request Form should be updated yearly.

Physician's Statement for Children with Disabilities

USDA regulations 7 CFR Part 15b require substitutions or modifications in school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diets. A child with a disability must be provided substitutions in foods when that need is supported by a statement signed by a licensed physician. The physician's statement must identify:

- the child's disability
- an explanation of why the disability restricts the child's diet
- the major life activity affected by the disability
- the food(s) to be omitted from the child's diet and/or the food or choice of foods that must be substituted
- specific substitutions needed must be specified in a statement signed by a licensed physician

Menu Modifications for Children with Disabilities

Children with disabilities who require changes to the basic meal are required to provide documentation with accompanying instructions from a licensed physician. This is required to ensure that the modified meal is reimbursable, and to ensure that any meal modifications meet nutrition standards which are medically appropriate for the child.

Serving the Special Dietary Needs of Children without Disabilities

Children without disabilities but with special dietary needs requiring food substitutions or modifications may request that the Food Service department meet their special nutrition needs.

- The Food Service department will decide these situations on a case-by-case basis. Documentation with accompanying information must be provided by a recognized medical authority.
- While school food authorities are encouraged to consult with recognized medical authorities, where appropriate, schools are not required to make modifications to meals based on food choices of a family or child regarding a healthful diet.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, a "person with a disability" means any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

The term "physical or mental impairment" includes many diseases and conditions, a few of which may be orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, metabolic diseases, such as diabetes or PKU, food anaphylaxis (severe food allergy), mental retardation, emotional illness, drug addiction and alcoholism, specific learning disabilities, HIV disease and tuberculosis.

Major life activities covered by this definition include caring for one's self, eating, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

When nutrition services are required under a child's IEP, school officials need to make sure that child nutrition staff are involved early on in the decisions regarding special meals.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.