

Policy Code: 6510 FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

The child nutrition services program shall participate in the national school lunch program, school breakfast program, and receive commodities donated by the United States Department of Agriculture; and it shall accept responsibility for providing free meals and reduced-price meals to eligible children in the schools.

Application forms for free and reduced-price meals, along with any explanatory materials, shall be sent to all students' homes by the Child Nutrition Department. Additional copies shall be made available in the principal's office at each school. The information provided on each application is confidential and may be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year.

School officials may not discriminate based on ~~No child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, disability, age, or eligibility status for free and reduced price meals. School officials are also prohibited from retaliating against an individual for prior civil rights activity.~~

Applications will be processed by the child nutrition department using approved software and verified by the child nutrition director. In the event that a parent should be dissatisfied with the verifying official's decision, the parent may request, either orally or in writing, a hearing to appeal the decision. The Superintendent shall designate a hearing officer for the program.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop rules, regulations, and procedures to implement this policy, consistent with federal and state regulations and guidelines governing child nutrition.

LEGAL REF: [G.S. 115C-47](#)(7), [-47](#)(22), [-263](#), [-264](#); National and School Lunch Act, as amended, [42 U.S.C. §§ 1751](#), *et seq.*, Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, [42 U.S.C. §§ 1771](#), *et seq.*; [16 NCAC 6H.0104](#), State Board of Education Policies [SHLT-000](#), [CHNU-002](#), [NCAC-6H.0004](#)

ADOPTED: February 7, 2005

AMENDED: March 10, 2014; August 1, 2017

Edenton-Chowan Schools