

Area: Health Services

Subject: HS29 - Meal Service

Reference: 1304.23 (c) (1-7)

Policy: SCOE and Delegate agencies will ensure that nutritional services in center-based settings contribute to the development and socialization of enrolled children.

Procedure:

1. A variety of food is served, which broadens each child's food experiences.
2. Food is not used as punishment or reward, and each child is encouraged, but not forced, to eat or taste his or her food.
3. Sufficient time is allowed for each child to eat.
4. All toddlers and preschool children and assigned classroom staff, including volunteers, eat together family style and share the same menu to the extent possible.
5. Infants are held while being fed and are not laid down to sleep with a bottle.
6. Medically-based diets or other dietary requirements are accommodated. When needed, "Physician Food Allergy Statement" is to be completed and health staff/dietician shall implement staff training needed.
7. As developmentally appropriate, opportunity is provided for the involvement of children in food-related activities.

Supervised by: Registered Dietician, Health Services Manager, Delegate Health and Disabilities Coordinators

Performed by: Program Specialists – Food Service, Grantee and Delegate Center Staff

Forms needed: Menu/Snack Forms, Activity Plans, Observation Form, Center Parent Meeting Agendas, Family Contact Log, Nutritional Concern Referral, Monitoring Tool, Emergency Cards, Physician Food Allergy Statement, IHCP, Classroom Nutrition Program Checklist

Frequency: Annually, Daily, Completion of Assessment, Ongoing