



Accommodating Disabilities in the School Meal Programs

Hapeville Charter Schools follows the policies for providing accommodations for students with disabilities as outlined by the United States Department of Agriculture's "Accommodating Disabilities in the School Meal Programs".

The USDA's last memo regarding the policy is listed below.

On Sept. 27, 2016, USDA-FNS issued SP59-2016: Policy Memorandum on Modifications to Accommodate Disabilities in the School Meal Programs to update Departmental requirements related to accommodating children with disabilities participating in the NSLP and SBP. This Q&A memorandum is a companion piece to SP59-2016. To view SP59-2016, please see: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/modifications-accommodate-disabilities-school-meal-programs.

The question of whether a child has a disability for purposes of making modifications to program meals has been simplified by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (PL 110-325; Sept. 25, 2008) and should no longer require extensive analysis. After the passage of the ADA Amendments Act, most physical and mental impairments will constitute a disability. The central concern for SFAs should be ensuring equal access to program benefits for children with disabilities.

Circumstances often vary, even when a disability diagnosis may be the same. The nature of the disability and age of the child should be considered when developing appropriate modifications. Each situation should be treated on a case-by-case basis. SFAs and schools should direct specific questions to the state agency if they are unsure how to proceed.

Students, families, and school staff should direct all questions and concerns regarding the accommodations should contact Hapeville Charter Schools' Director of School Nutrition Department using the contact information below.

School Nutrition Director
Akiyo Martin
amartin@hapevillecharter.org
404-941-1041 Ext 509

Director of Business Operations Chris Worley <u>cworley@hapevillecharter.org</u> 404-767-7745 Ext 417