

# EFC Free and Reduced Price Food Programs

File: EFC

## SCHOOL NUTRITION SERVICES: FREE MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS

The Board recognizes that sound nutrition is essential to students' physical and social-emotional well-being and their readiness to learn.

Regional School Unit 1 will participate, as feasible, in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and other food programs reimbursable through federal funds.

Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, Regional School Unit 1 will provide free school meals to all students regardless of family income. Such meals will meet the nutritional requirements established in federal regulations.

In order to maximize funding for schools and to be able to identify additional benefits for which families may be eligible, parents will be asked to complete an alternate economic status form.

Students are still free to bring their own breakfast or lunch to school and/or to purchase a la carte items. All a la carte items must be paid for in advance or at the time of purchase.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 6601 et seq.

Cross-Reference: EFBA – Menu Options/Offer vs. Serve EF – Nutrition Services: Unpaid Meal Charges and Prohibition on Food Shaming

Adopted: May 11, 1992

Reviewed: July 10, 2006

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