

# F O O D

Donation Policy



## Frequently Asked Questions:

In an effort to avoid discarding excess or unused food served in the school meal program, the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District has recently passed a resolution, entitled “Healthy Students, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities” introduced by Board Member Dr. Richard Vladovic, to make the excess or unused food be available to charitable non-profit organizations.

The following are popular questions received regarding the process:

- 1. This sounds like a great way to help the community, but what is the responsibility of the school Principal/Administrator and the Food Services Manager?**

The Principals’ involvement is to be aware that approved agencies will be coming onto the campus to receive donated food.

The Cafeteria Manager will be working directly with the Non-Profit Organizations to ensure all processes are followed per health department regulations.

- 2. If an organization asks to be a part of the program, where are they to be referred?**

Please refer any organization to the Food Services Division at 213-241-6419 or 213-241-6422 or have them visit the website at: <http://achieve.lausd.net/cafela>

- 3. Where can I find a list of acceptable organizations that can pick-up donated foods?**

The list of acceptable organizations is available on the Food Services Division’s website at: <http://achieve.lausd.net/cafela>

- 4. Can students, parents or school personnel take food home that is scheduled to be donated?**

No, only approved non-profit organizations can receive donated foods, whose ultimate destination is for individuals and families.

- 5. Do the school parent centers qualify as a “non-profit organization” and pick up donated foods?**

If an organization wishes to participate, it must sign an “Agreement for Donation of Leftover

Food Items,” which indicates the Non-Profit Organization is aware of the program and procedures and has the following:

- Satisfactory liability insurance
- “Hold Harmless” agreement

The LAUSD Office of General Counsel will review and provide acceptability.

**6. Does every school cafeteria have to participate?**

The Healthy Families, Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities motion was passed by the LAUSD School Board. Therefore, any school within the district must adhere and participate in the program.

**7. What will be donated?**

Food not served to, or in the possession of students.

**8. What do we do if the “non-profit organization” does not bring acceptable containers for transporting food?**

Per the signed agreement, Organizations may not take the donated goods in unacceptable containers.

**9. What if the “non-profit organization” does not show up during the designated time?**

Remind the Non-Profit Organization of the designated time. LAUSD cannot provide access to campus if it is after 30 minutes passed the meal period, in accordance with CFRC Article 2, Section 113996.

**10. Can the food served to students that they do not want, be given to a “non-profit organization?”**

Yes, consistent with the Healthy Families, Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities resolution, food served to students they do not want can be given to a non-profit organization.

**11. Why is some of the same type items not donated each day?**

Foods served to children vary daily and those that can be donated must be within safe temperature levels. Safe temperature levels require cold food to be held at 41<sup>0</sup> Fahrenheit or below, and hot foods to be held at 140<sup>0</sup> Fahrenheit or above.

**12. What can a Principal/Administrator do to encourage students not to throw away food that could be donated?**

Principals/administration can encourage students to put food they are not going to eat on a common table, either for other students to consume or to be available for donation.

**13. Is the District liable if something happens to the donated goods?**

The District requires all non-profit organizations to enter into agreements regarding their responsibilities to participate including the transportation, distribution, use and consumption of the food items. Therefore, the District is not liable.

