Teacher's Summary for Breakfast in the Classroom



How It Works

The Breakfast in the Classroom initiative takes the traditional school breakfast approach and improves it with one key ingredient: the classroom. Breakfast becomes available to everyone – no matter their income level – and it's served after the opening bell. This makes it easier for all children to easily participate.

Breakfasts are composed of four food groups: grain, milk, fruit, and protein.

The USDA requires students take a minimum of three (3) different food groups for the school to be reimbursed. Teachers should be encouraging students to take all four (4) components so they receive the nutrients they need to start a productive day of school!

How to Pass out Breakfast Fast and Efficient

Line up the food items in a tray line and have the students come up and select a minimum of three (3) *different* food items for their breakfast.

When the student's show their selections to you, the teacher, ensure the meal follows the guidelines for reimbursement and record the meal on your roster before the student sits down to enjoy their breakfast.

If the student's meal is does not meet the guidelines for reimbursement – send them back to select the additional item(s) needed.

How to Clean Up

During the clean-up process, make sure all trash is picked up and in the trash can.

Put any extra food not taken, back into the tote, so it can be used at another breakfast.

Return the reimbursable meal roster with the tote so it can be received by the Nutrition Services office.

Set the tote (with roster) outside of your classroom door for the Nutrition Services staff to pick up after your morning breakfast.

Civil Rights Laws Annual Teacher's Training



All staff who work with Child Nutrition Programs (i.e. Breakfast in the Classroom) must receive training on all aspects of Civil Rights compliance annually

The Civil Rights Laws prohibit discrimination against a person or group of person's race, color, gender, national origin, mental or physical disability, religion, sexual orientation, or citizenship.

Discrimination is the act of distinction of the person or group of persons from another; either intentionally, by neglect, or by actions or lack of actions based on their protected class.

Reasonable accommodations must be made for students with mental or physical disabilities. If a student is unable to get their own breakfast, try and think of a way to provide the breakfast to the student without delaying school or preventing other students from receiving their breakfast at a reasonable time.

Possible Classroom Scenarios:

Situation: You have extra food left over from breakfast and want to pass it out to the kids so they aren't hungry before lunch. Boys eat more than girls – so you only offer the extra food to the boys.

 This violates the Civil Rights Laws – Gender. To ensure all kids are treated fairly and no group of being excluded or neglected, offer additional food to all students.

Situation: You have a student who recently broke both of his legs and is not able to walk far distances. He states his legs are hurting him and he doesn't want to get up to grab his breakfast so he asks a friend. You tell the student's friend that if he wants breakfast he has to come up and get it himself.

This could be seen as discrimination for a physical disability. If a student has a physical or mental disability you must make "reasonable" accommodations to ensure the student has the opportunity to receive their breakfast. By allowing the student's friend to retrieve his breakfast – you made a "reasonable" accommodation to ensure he was fed.

Please read this handout thoroughly - it serves as your annual Civil Rights training