



## Medical Statement for Children with Dietary Disabilities

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USDA regulations 7 CFR Part 15b require substitutions or modifications in school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diets. A child with a disability must be provided substitutions in foods when that need is supported by a statement signed by a licensed physician (Medical Doctor, MD or Doctor of Osteopathy, DO). SP 23-2015 also permits for an advanced practice nurse (APN) with prescriptive authority (RXN) or physician assistant (PA) to complete and sign a medical statement for meal accommodations in the Child Nutrition Programs and recommend alternate food for children whose disability restrict their diet.

If an SFA chooses to use their own medical statement the statement signed by the licensed physician (MD or DO), advanced practice nurse (APN) with prescriptive authority (RXN) or physician assistant (PA) must include **all** of the following:

- ✓ The child's disability
- ✓ An explanation of why the disability restricts the child's diet
- ✓ The major life activity affected by the disability
- ✓ The food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet, and the food or choice of foods that must be substituted

## Medical Statement for Children with Special Dietary Needs (non-disability)

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Each special dietary request must be supported by a statement, which explains the food substitution that is requested. It must be signed by a recognized medical authority (nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or licensed physician).

If an SFA chooses to use their own medical statement the medical statement must include **all** of the following:

- ✓ An identification of the medical or other special dietary condition which restricts the child's diet;
- ✓ The food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet; and
- ✓ The food or choice of foods to be substituted

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