Special Dietary Needs Documentation Flowchart

Use this flowchart to determine when a medical statement is needed.

School is notified of a student with a potential need for a modified diet. The student has a...

Medical Statement

Is the form signed by a licensed physician, advanced nurse practitioner with prescriptive authority or physician assistant?

YES

Is the information complete, clear and substantive?

YES

SFA is required to provide the accommodations specified on the Medical Statement.

It is recommended that the district/site convene a team to review the medical statement.

NO

Upon documented permission from the parent/legal guardian, the district/site should contact the recognized medical authority who completed the medical statement for clarification.

Dietary Preference Form

Is it a medical need that can be made within the meal pattern?

NO

A medical statement must be obtained in order to accommodate.

YES

The request is for a general health preference or religious, ethical or cultural reasons that do not rise to the level of a disability.

The district/site is required to make the requested accommodation.

Modifications to the meal must meet the USDA meal pattern requirements.

The district/site is not required to provide meal modifications for dietary preferences.

No Documentation

Is the request for a medical condition?

YES

Districts cannot accommodate request.

NO

Can request be made within the meal pattern?

YES

Disability requests that can be made within the meal pattern do not require a medical statement.*

NO

Medical statement is required to make accommodation.

It is recommended that the district/site have a Dietary Preference Form filled out as documentation.

NO

Does the district/site choose to provide accommodations for dietary preferences?

YES

Does the district/site require a medical statement for all medical needs?*

NO

Does the district/site choose to provide accommodations for dietary preferences?

YES

The district/site is required to make the requested accommodation.

NO

The district/site is not required to provide meal modifications for dietary preferences.

*Districts/sites may choose to require a medical statement for meal modifications within the meal pattern.