

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR CALIFORNIA'S UNIVERSAL MEAL PROGRAM

Notice published March 3, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Education Code Section 49501.5, that the California Department of Education (CDE) proposes to adopt guidelines for the implementation of the Universal Meal Program.

The CDE invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to the proposed guidelines at the scheduled public meeting or during the written comment period.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed guidelines to:

Frances Swann
Nutritional Services Division
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 4503
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments may also be submitted by email to UMPCComment@cde.ca.gov.

Comments must be received by the above-named CDE staff prior to or on April 3, 2023.

NOTE: Only **written** comments will be accepted during the period of March 3, 2023 through April 3, 2023, inclusive. **Oral comments will be accepted only at the public hearing as scheduled below.**

PUBLIC HEARING

The CDE staff will hold a public, online meeting commencing at 10:00 am on April 3, 2023. The public hearing will conclude at 5:00 pm or upon the completion of a 30-minute time block that passes without public comments, whichever occurs first.

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Public Hearing Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89081187691>
Passcode: 510698

Or Telephone:
1-669-900-6833
1-213-338-8477
1-669-219-2599
1-971-247-1195

Webinar ID: 890 8118 7691
Passcode: 510698

During the meeting, any person may present statements or arguments, orally or in writing, relevant to the proposed guidelines. Each speaker will be allotted up to a maximum of five (5) minutes for oral comments. The CDE requests, but does not require, that persons who make oral comments at the public hearing also submit a written summary of their statements. No oral statements will be accepted subsequent to this public meeting. Please be aware that the purpose of public hearing is for the intake of oral public comments only; no discussions or question-and-answer sessions will be conducted.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, and the *Unruh Civil Rights Act*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to participate in this public meeting may request assistance by contacting Frances Swann of the Nutrition Services Division, 1430 N Street, Suite 4503, Sacramento, CA, 95814; email FSwann@cde.ca.gov, or telephone, 916-323-2485. It is recommended that assistance be requested at least two weeks prior to the hearing. Please note that Live Captioning will be available during the online meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBJECT TO PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

All written and oral comments received by CDE staff during the public comment period are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act

AVAILABILITY OF THE PROPOSED GUIDELINES

As of the date this notice, the proposed guidelines may be viewed on CDE's website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/umpguidepubliccomment.asp>.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

Following the public meeting and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the CDE may adopt the proposed guidelines or may modify the proposed guidelines. With the exception of technical, grammatical, and incidental changes, *if the CDE decides to modify the proposed guidelines*, the full text of significant changes to the guidelines will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to another public hearing. The CDE will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available on the CDE website <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/umpguidepubliccomment.asp>.

The CDE will send a notice that announces the modified regulations and the public comment period, including the date and time for the public hearing, to individuals and entities that provided a comment during the initial public comment period (March 3, 2023-April 3, 2023). The notice will be available on the CDE website <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/umpguidepubliccomment.asp>.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL GUIDELINES

The finalized Universal Meal Program Guidelines will be posted on the CDE's web site <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/umpguidepubliccomment.asp>.