USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <u>USDA Form AD-3027</u> (linked tested 2024/5/9), from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. Mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

- 2. **Fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. Email: Program.Intake@usda.gov

*NOTE: the above listed classes are those for which protections are extended under USDA regulations. Although the USDA only receives complaints relative to claims of discrimination based upon those classes, additional state and federal laws, as well as Board policy AC extend protections against discrimination to additional classes of persons. See policy AC for further information regarding those additional classes and related grievance procedures.

B. Additional Discrimination Complaint Information.

- Any person or representative alleging discrimination based on a prohibited basis relative to any of the District's food service programs has the right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory action.
- 2. District staff who receive a complaint alleging illegal discrimination in the district's nutrition program will forward the complaint to the District's Human Rights

Coordinator immediately, who shall note whether the allegation was made verbally or in person and will transcribe the complaint if it is not provided in writing. As required by the USDA, the Human Rights Coordinator will forward the complaint to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights immediately and will not first attempt to resolve the complaint prior to contacting the USDA.

A. Notice of Non-Discrimination Statement and Program Rights.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all materials and resources that are used to inform the public about any USDA supported Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) program include the complete, most current USDA nondiscrimination statement in its exact wording. The statement may be accessed at: <u>USDA Non-discrimination Statement (Other Programs)</u> (link tested 2024/5/9).

At a minimum, the full USDA non-discrimination statement must be included on the following materials related to USDA programs:

FNS Application Form(s)
Notification of Eligibility or Ineligibility
Expiration of Certification Notification
Discontinuance Notification
Program (Home) Web Page
Other Public Information

B. Display of "And Justice for All" Poster.

The USDA requires that its "And Justice for All" nondiscrimination poster is prominently displayed in each location where FNS meals are most frequently provided (e.g., school cafeteria). Each poster must be no smaller than 11" x 17" and placed in a location that enables program participants to read the text regarding civil rights complaints without obstruction.

District Policy History:

First reading: October 2, 2025

Second reading/adopted: October 16, 2025

District revision history:

Legal References Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

NH Statutes Description

RSA 354-A:1 (Human Rights) Title and Purposes of Chapter

RSA 354-A:27 Opportunity for Public Education without Discrimination a Civil Right

RSA 354-A:6 Opportunity for Employment without Discrimination a Civil Right