

(Provided to Sponsors 00/00/2016)

CNS Update: New Non-discrimination Statement

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently updated the non-discrimination statement associated with all USDA funded Child Nutrition Programs. **All Child Nutrition Program sponsors are required to update the non-discrimination statement on program materials.**

Non-discrimination statements on web-sites should be updated immediately. Non-discrimination statements on printed program materials should be updated as existing supplies are depleted. The entire non-discrimination statement must be used. If materials are small (less than 1 page in length) and can't realistically display the entire statement without changing the nature of the material you may use the shortened version, "*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*"

New "And Justice for All Posters" are being printed and will be distributed to program sponsors soon. Additional resources available for your use include the [Civil Rights Reference Sheet](#) and [Civil Rights Staff Training](#).

The new Non-discrimination statement is:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. 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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may 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 complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA

office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; fax: (202) 690-7442; or email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Please contact your program specialist with any questions.



OSPI CHILD NUTRITON assists school districts and other institutions in providing quality nutrition programs that promote life-long healthful living while providing nutritious meals each day that prepare children for learning.

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