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Arkansas Department of Human Services	Procedure: AR CACFP 2013-4
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education	Section: All Institutions
Child and Adult Care Food Program	Subject: Food Allergies & Intolerances
	Effective date: 04/16/2013

**FOOD ALLERGIES AND INTOLERANCES**

The safety of participants is the first and highest priority of the CACFP and of meal services in all facilities.

1. Participants in the CACFP who have food allergies or intolerances or other physical conditions must have documentation of any food allergy or intolerance or physical condition in which certain named foods will or may cause danger or harm to the participant and/or if it requires change in the CACFP meal pattern.
2. Documentation of the food allergy or intolerance or other physical condition must be from a recognized medical authority (physician, physician’s assistant, certified nurse practitioner, etc.) The documentation must include the foods to be omitted along with a list of acceptable food substitutions. The list of acceptable food substitutions may be provided by a recognized medical authority or a registered dietitian. Current documentation must be on file for all participants with food allergies and intolerances and for all dietary restrictions of a medical nature and must be kept confidential, complying with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). If the parent or guardian rejects the requirement for confidentiality and requests that information about the dietary restriction for their participant be communicated to others in the day care facility, then the day care facility must follow the parent or guardian’s written and signed instructions for this communication.
3. Whenever reasonably possible, the day care facility must obtain and serve the substitute food to the participant. When the substitute food is extremely expensive or when the substitute food is a medical food prescribed by a physician and available only through a pharmacy, then the facility may ask the parent or guardian to supply it.