

# **Handling Discrimination Complaints Procedure**

Under United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations, contracting entities (CE's) must assure that school nutrition program (SNP) benefits are made available and provided to all eligible individuals without discrimination based on:

- 1. Race
- 2. Color
- 3. National Origin
- 4. Sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation)
- 5. Disability
- 6. Age
- 7. Reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity

All SNP complaints alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, verbal, written, or in person will be accepted by the Food and Nutrition Services staff and forwarded to TDA, or can be filed directly with TDA or USDA. No attempt to resolve the complaint will be made without first forwarding the complaint to TDA.

## To file a complaint directly with USDA

To file a program discrimination complaint, you may obtain a complaint form by sending an email to <a href="mailto:CR-Info@USDA.gov">CR-Info@USDA.gov</a>. You or your authorized representative must sign the complaint form. You are not required to use the complaint form. You may write a letter instead. If you write a letter, it must contain all of the information requested in the form and be signed by you or your authorized representative. Incomplete information will delay the processing of your complaint. Employment civil rights complaints will not be accepted through this email address.

You may 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, Ave, SW, STOP 9410, Washington,

DC 20250-9410;

Fax: 1 (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

e-Mail: program.intake@usda.gov

You may also visit USDA website at: https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-

discrimination-complaint

For additional information about what to include in your letter, see **How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint**, at <a href="https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint">https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint</a> on U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE website. For information on the discrimination complaint process, contact the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Information Research Service, on (202) 260-1026 or (866) 632-9992 (toll free) or send an email to <a href="mailto:CR-Info@USDA.gov">CR-Info@USDA.gov</a>. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 690-0443 (voice and TDD) or contact through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

**USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form** 



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### To file a complaint form with Texas Department of Agriculture

### Food and Nutrition General Contact Information and Complaints

#### **General Contact Information**

(877) TEX MEAL (839-6325) Fax (888) 203-6593

squaremeals@texasagriculture.gov

#### **Physical Address**

Texas Department of Agriculture 1700 North Congress Avenue, 10th Floor Austin, Texas 78701

### **Mailing Address**

Texas Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 12847 Austin, Texas 78711-284

#### **TDA Fraud Prevention Coordinator**

1-866-5-FRAUD-4 1-866-537-2834

Fraud@TexasAgriculture.gov

Need to file a complaint with Food and Nutrition? ¿Necesita presentar una Queja con Comida y Nutrición?

<u>Instructions in English/Instrucciones en Espanol</u> Form Used to file a complaint (Bilingual).

### TDA Regional Office Contact Information

## **Region 3 - Houston Office**

(888) 244-9764

Telephone Address

(713) 921-8201 Texas Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition (F&N)

Fax Elias Ramirez State Office Building

5425 Polk Street, Suite G-40

Houston, TX 77023





### To file a complaint form with Dickinson ISD Food and Nutrition Services

To file a complaint through **Dickinson ISD Food and Nutrition Services** please contact any employee in person or by phone at 281-229-6012. You can also give your verbal complaint to any FNS employee and they will complete the form. Any verbal or written complaint will be accepted by Food and Nutrition Services staff at any school kitchen location or at our Food and Nutrition Services offices located at 4003 Video St. Dickinson, TX. 77539. Completed complaint forms will:

- 1. Be taken by any FNS employee
- 2. Be given to an FNS Manager
- 3. The FNS Manager will forward the complete complaint form to the Director of Food and Nutrition Service.
- 4. The Food and Nutrition Director will forward the completed complaint to Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

#### Non-Discrimination statement reads as follows:

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 on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.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:

https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf 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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





## **DICKINSON ISD COMPLAINT FORM**

To file a complaint, complete	this form and submit it to	
{Enter Name or Position Title or	f Person Receiving Complaint a	nd Contact information}.
All complaints, written or ver Agriculture.	bal, are automatically forward	led to the Texas Department of
Check if you would like to	remain anonymous	
I. Contact Information for Pe	erson Submitting the Complain	nt
(Please record your name, add spaces below.)	ress, telephone number, and ad	Iditional contact information in the
First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
Address	City, State, and Zip Code	Best Telephone Number for You
Are there other ways we can co an email address or a different		he box. Other ways might include
II. Reason for the Complaint		
Provide information about the c (Attach additional paper if more	complaint with as much detail as space is needed.)	possible for questions (A-E).
A. What is the name and addr	ess of the entity you are filing th	e complaint about?





B. If this complaint is against an individual, enter the person (or persons) name and contact information in this box. If the complaint is not against an individual, record a check in the box in front of N/A.				
☐ N/A—This complaint is not	against an individual.			
C. Describe the complaint with incident occurred. If you have ar alleged violation, attach that doc	· •			
D. If there are other people who titles, and address/contact inform	o have knowledge about this even mation. (Attach additional sheets			
Name	Title	Address/ Contact Information		





E. What is the basis or the type of based on discrimination, record a continuous continu		•	•		
☐ N/A—This complaint is not	based on d	iscrimination.			
Please circle all that applies: Race Sex					
Signature of Complainant		Date			
This Space to Be Completed by Person Receiving the Complaint					
Name of Person Receiving Complaint:		-	Complaint was translated (Check this box if this complaint from was completed by a		
		•	person other than the complainant)		
			, , ,		
Staff Person Assigned to Address			Date Forwarded to the Texas Department		
Complaint:		of Agriculture	<b>):</b>		

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DICKINSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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