



Bi-County Collaborative

Making It Possible

## Food Safety Guidelines

**A. General Regulations:** BICO Programs must follow the food safety guidelines below.

- (1) Whenever possible, student's snacks must be pre-packaged or ready to serve in individual portions to minimize handling and preparation.
- (2) To minimize potential spread of infection and to promote physical distancing, cafeterias and group dining rooms must be avoided unless 6 feet of distancing between all students are possible.
- (3) Multiple students shall not use the same serving or eating utensils.
- (4) Sinks used for food preparation must not be used for any other purposes.
- (5) Staff must ensure students wash hands prior to and immediately after eating.
- (6) Staff must wash their hands before preparing food and after helping students to eat.
- (7) Tables, chairs, and trays used for meals need to be cleaned and sanitized before and after use.
- (8) All food contact surfaces, equipment, and utensils used for the preparation, packaging, or handling of food products must be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before each use. Additionally, programs must frequently clean non-food contact surfaces, such as doorknobs, tabletops, and chairs. Use sanitizers approved by the EPA for use against COVID-19 and for food-contact surfaces.
- (9) When disinfecting for coronavirus, EPA recommends following the product label use directions for enveloped viruses, as indicated by the approved emerging viral pathogen claim on the master label.
- (10) Staff must be prepared to provide hands-on assistance to students with special needs for activities of daily living such as feeding. To protect themselves, staff who care for students requiring hands-on assistance for routine care activities, including feeding, and other direct contact activities must wear a long-sleeved, button down, oversized shirt over their clothing and wear long hair up or tied back during all activities requiring direct

contact with a student. Staff must change outer clothing if body fluids from the student are present. Staff must change the student's clothing if body fluids are present. Soiled clothing must be placed in a plastic bag until it can be sent home with the child to be washed.