

Food Allergy Policy

Unit: [Dining Services](#)
Effective Date: 3/31/2014
Revision Date: 3/25/2019

Contact: Holly Grof
Title: Dining Services Coordinator

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a standard method for students to request reasonable accommodations to their meal plan due to food allergies or food-related disabilities.

Policy

The University of Alabama's dining services team is well-trained in food allergy awareness and offers a number of options for students with food allergies or food-related disabilities, including communication about and modification to existing menu items, and special preparation of allergen-free menu items.

The process for obtaining a reasonable accommodation is an interactive one that begins with the student's request for a change in the usual manner in which things are done at The University of Alabama (UA). Students requesting a reasonable accommodation to their meal plan should submit a Special Diet Accommodation Form found on the [Food Allergies webpage](#).

Once University Dining Services has received and reviewed these forms, UA will make reasonable accommodations in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. These accommodations will be determined following an interactive process wherein the student and the University, together with a designated Bama Dining Services staff member, work cooperatively to fashion a modified plan for the student, and will be set forth in a letter of accommodation, a copy of which will be provided to the student.

UA recognizes that despite its good faith and reasonable efforts to provide reasonable accommodations to its policies, practices, and procedures for students with food allergies or food related disabilities, students may ultimately disagree with UA's proposed accommodations. In the event a student with a food allergy or food-related disability disagrees with the determinations made by University Dining Services after the student has engaged in the interactive process, the student may request a review by UA's ADA Coordinator. Appeals of this review are heard by the Vice President for Student Affairs, who will render a decision following deliberation with the Vice President for Finance and Operations.

Student Responsibilities

1. The student should be proficient in the self-management of the student's food allergy by:
 - a. Being responsible for what he or she eats and avoiding unsafe foods.
 - b. Being knowledgeable about the proper use of prescribed medications to treat an allergic reaction.
 - c. Recognizing symptoms of an allergic reaction so that the appropriate medical response can occur as quickly as possible.
2. In the event student has a food allergy reaction, the student should contact the Dining Services Coordinator as soon as possible in order to discuss why the reaction occurred and to work toward preventing future food allergy reactions.

3. The student should work cooperatively with UA.

Scope

This policy applies to all incoming freshman students required to participate in the Freshman Dining Program All Access Meal Plan and any other student that chooses to purchase a meal plan.

Office of the Vice President of Finance and Operations

Signed:  _____ 3/25/2019
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Cheryl Mowdy
Assistant Vice President for Finance and Operations