



# Lincolnview Local Schools

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## Milk Substitution for Children with Medical or Special Dietary Needs (Non-Disability): Q&A's According to the Ohio Department of Health

### Children who have a life-threatening allergy/disability related to consuming milk (anaphylaxis):

1. For a student with a recognized disability who cannot consume cow's milk, the school must omit or substitute fluid milk based on the written statement from a licensed physician.
2. District is required to accommodate a Child with a disability, but must obtain a medical note from a licensed physician that describes the Child's condition.
3. Whatever the physician prescribes as a milk substitution must be served, which may be orange juice or water. (Physician's medical note must be specific to substitute e.g., Lactose-free milk).

### Children with a medical or special dietary need other than a disability:

1. A school does not have to comply with a statement from a licensed physician or a medical authority indicating that a specific beverage (e.g., juice) must be provided in place of milk to a child with a medical or special dietary need other than a disability.
2. When the milk substitution request is due to a medical or special dietary need other than a disability, the school chooses whether to accommodate the student and selects the nondairy beverage(s) in accordance with the final milk substitution rule.

### Lincolnview Local Schools District has chosen to voluntarily accommodate non-life-threatening milk substitution requests, to offer fluid milk substitutes to students whose non-disabling allergies, culture, religion, or ethical beliefs preclude the consumption of cow's milk but must:

1. Obtain a note from either a parent or a medical authority that describes the Child's condition and that they are requesting a milk substitute.
2. Juice or water is not an allowable substitution. A fluid dairy or non-dairy substitution may be made.
3. Dairy milk products are acceptable substitutions (lactose-free milk). Non-dairy substitutions must meet the nutrient specifications outlined by the USDA. See ODE Policy Statement NSLP 12-09.

**A statement from a medical authority is still required for any meal variations, other than milk substitution, for a student with medical or other special dietary needs (Note must be specific to allergy, and reaction (symptoms)).**

**"We Believe Everyone Can Be An Achiever Through Education."**