Food Program
One Bright Ray, Inc.
1142 E. Erie Ave.
Philadelphia, PA, 19124

MEAL CHARGE POLICY

Internal Controls and Financial Procedures

Policy Statement

The school participates in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Lunch Program under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Through this program, all enrolled students are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at no cost to their families.

As a result of participating in CEP, the school does not charge students or parents for meals provided through the National School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs.

1. Parent and Guardian Communication

The school will communicate to parents and guardians that, under the Community Eligibility Provision, all students qualify to receive free breakfast and lunch. Parents will be informed that:

● No payment is required for breakfast or lunch provided through the school's federally sponsored meal programs.

● No meal account deposits or payments are necessary.

● No meal charges or outstanding meal balances will be assessed to students or families.

2. Student Meal Charges

Students will not be asked or required to pay for breakfast or lunch provided through the USDA National School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program.

The school will not establish individual student meal debt or maintain outstanding balances for meals covered under CEP.

3. Withdrawal or Transfer of Students

Students who withdraw, transfer, or otherwise leave the school will not have outstanding meal balances associated with breakfast or lunch provided through the National School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs.

The school will not seek reimbursement, pursue collection, or require departing students or their parents or guardians to repay the school for meals provided under the Community Eligibility Provision.

4. Internal Controls and Accountability

School administration and designated food service personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy. Internal procedures will ensure that:

● No charges are posted to student accounts for covered breakfast and lunch meals.

● No meal debt collection procedures are implemented for meals provided under CEP.

● Parents and guardians receive accurate information regarding the availability of free meals.

● School records and financial procedures accurately reflect the school's participation in CEP.

5. Policy Compliance

All school personnel involved in meal service, student enrollment, financial administration, and parent communication must adhere to this policy.

This policy is intended to ensure that all students have equal access to school breakfast and lunch without financial barriers and that the school maintains appropriate internal controls in accordance with applicable USDA program requirements.

Effective Date: 08/24/2026

Approved By: Frances Velazquez

Date of Approval: 08/24/2026