

Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment

Sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program are required to have a local wellness policy for all participating sites under its jurisdiction. At a minimum, the local wellness policy must be assessed once every three years; this is referred to as the triennial assessment. Triennial assessments must determine, for each participating site under its jurisdiction, 1) compliance with the wellness policy, 2) progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy, and 3) how the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies. **This documentation should be kept on file with your organization's written local wellness policy for review by an ISBE monitor during your next school nutrition administrative review.**

Sponsor Name: Children's Home Association of Illinois

Site Name: Kiefer School and Academy for Autism

Date Completed: 1/27/2026 (Updated)

Completed by: Michelle Taylor

Part I: Content Checklist

Below is a list of items that must be addressed in Local Wellness Policies, based on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and state guidance. Check the box for each item included in your Local Wellness Policy. For any box that is not checked, consider taking steps to add the item(s) to the policy in the future. For more information, see [ISBE's Local Wellness Policy Content Checklist](#).

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|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goals for Nutrition Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nutrition Standards for School Meals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wellness Leadership |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goals for Nutrition Promotion | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Involvement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goals for Physical Activity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standards for All Foods/Beverages
Provided, but Not Sold | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Triennial Assessments |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goals for Other School-Based
Wellness Activities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food & Beverage Marketing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unused Food Sharing Plan | | |

Part II: Goal Assessment

Per USDA regulations, the triennial assessment must determine compliance with and progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. Input the goals of your local wellness policy into the table below for the corresponding areas: Nutrition Education, Nutrition Promotion, Physical Activity, and Other School-Based Wellness Activities. Indicate if the site is meeting, partially meeting, or not meeting each goal listed. Include any next steps in attaining the goal(s), if applicable. Table rows may be added for additional goals.

Goals	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	Next Steps (If Applicable)
Nutrition Education				
Nutrition education grounded in research, delivered through integrated classroom instruction, with a focus on balanced nutrition, informed decision-making, and the development of lifelong wellness skills. Instruction is adapted to meet students' developmental and therapeutic needs.	X			

Goals	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	Next Steps (If Applicable)
Nutrition Promotion				
Nutrition promotion occurs through student engagement, structured meal environments, visual support, and healthy snack offerings. Nutritional information is available to families upon request.	X			

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Goals	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	Next Steps (If Applicable)
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Physical Activity

Students participate in physical education aligned with the Illinois Administrative Code. Residential programming includes structured physical activities that support physical health and emotional regulation.	X			

Goals	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	Next Steps (If Applicable)
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Other School-Based Wellness Activities

Wellness integration through trauma-informed practices, therapeutic programming, and coordinated school-residential supports to promote student health, safety, and well-being.	X			

Part III: Model Policy Comparison

As part of the triennial assessment, USDA requires sponsors to assess how their wellness policy compares to model wellness policies. Choose **one** of the model wellness policies below to compare against your local wellness policy. Indicate which model policy was chosen and provide a narrative for each prompt below based on the findings.

- [Alliance for a Healthier Generation's Model Wellness Policy](#) – Local wellness policy created in collaboration with USDA, which exceeds minimum requirements
- [Rudd Center's WellSAT 3.0](#) – Wellness assessment tool that asks a series of questions about your local wellness policy and generates a personalized scorecard based on the results. Users will need to create an account to access this tool.
- Other: _____

1. What strengths does your current local wellness policy possess?

- Clear nutrition standards for foods provided but not sold
- Celebration guidance
- Reward and incentive restrictions
- Snack expectations
- Allergy and safety language
- Monitoring and oversight
- Language aligned tightly with USDA Final Rule intent

2. What improvements could be made to your local wellness policy?

This Local Wellness Policy is aligned with the following federal and state regulations:

- Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010
- USDA Final Rule: Local School Wellness Policy Implementation (7 CFR §210.30)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards
- Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Programs Guidance

3. List any next steps that can be taken to make the changes discussed above.

The following steps have been taken.

- Fully revised Sections I–VIII
- Robust Sections II, III, IV
- Regulatory citations