

61-17.1400.1401 General (II)

A.

Facility meal service programs shall be inspected and approved by the Department, and shall be regulated, inspected, and graded pursuant to R.61-25.

B.

When meals are catered to a facility, such meals shall be obtained from a meal service establishment graded by the Department, pursuant to R.61-25. (I)

C.

If food is prepared at a central kitchen and delivered to separate facilities or separate buildings and/or floors of the same facility, provisions shall be made for proper maintenance of food temperatures and a sanitary mode of transportation that are approved by the Department.

D.

Food shall be prepared by methods that conserve the nutritive value, flavor and appearance. The food shall be palatable, properly prepared, and sufficient in quantity and quality to meet the daily nutritional needs of the residents in accordance with written dietary policies and procedures.

E.

Efforts shall be made to accommodate the religious, cultural, and ethnic preferences of each resident and consider variations of eating habits, unless the orders of a physician or other legally authorized healthcare provider contraindicate.

F.

Nourishment stations, if provided, shall contain a handwashing sink equipped for handwashing, equipment for serving nourishment between scheduled meals, refrigerator, and storage cabinets.

G.

At least one (1) dietary refrigerator shall be provided on each resident floor and shall have a thermometer accurate to plus or minus two (2) degrees Fahrenheit. In addition, if a refrigerator(s) is in a resident room for food storage, the same thermometer requirement applies.

H.

Medications, nursing supplies, or biologicals shall not be stored in the dietary department or any refrigerator or storage area utilized by the dietary department.

I.

The preparation of meals shall only be conducted in areas of the facility that have been approved by the Department. Extended operations of a facility's meal service program shall not be located in rooms used for other purposes, such as, sleeping, living, laundry.