

Qualifications for School Food Service Manager

Minimum Education Standards

Bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience with academic major in specific areas;*

OR

Bachelor's degree in any academic major, **and** State-recognized certificate for school nutrition directors;

OR

Bachelor's degree in any academic major, **and** at least **1** year of relevant school nutrition programs experience;

OR

Associate's degree or equivalent educational experience, with academic major in specific areas,* and at least 1 year of relevant school nutrition programs experience;

OR

High school diploma (or GED) and at least 3 years of relevant experience in school nutrition programs.

*Specific majors/areas of concentration: food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business or a related field.

At least **8** hours of food safety training is required either not more than **5** years prior to their starting date or completed within **30** days of the employee's start date.

Equivalent Educational Experience – (as referenced in options (a) and (d) above): means college credits completed by an individual who does not possess a bachelor's or an associate's degree. For example 60 college credits could be accepted as the equivalent of an associate's degree.

Related Field – (as referenced in options (a) and (d) above): refers to other college majors that would provide an applicant specific knowledge and skills that are relevant for a school nutrition program director. Possible majors would include, but are not limited to, Food Science, Community Nutrition and Marketing, and Hospitality Management. Colleges and universities may use different names for similar majors.

A State recognized certificate for school nutrition directors (as referenced in option (b) above): means a certified dietician or a certified nutritionist per article 157 of NYS Education Law.

Relevant experience in school nutrition programs – (as referenced in options (c), (d) and (e) above): is experience specifically having worked in any child nutrition program in some capacity, but not necessarily in the food service director position. This includes the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The experience is relevant/acceptable if it provides the applicant with familiarity of the USDA's school nutrition program.