



SNP Administrative Review Findings

Aspire Charter Academy (9685)

Program Year 2026

Aspire Charter Academy (9685)

4900 W 15th Ave
Gary, IN 46406-2308

No. of Sites / Reviewed: 1 / 1
Month of Review: March 2026

Food Service Contact

Ms. Latiffany Britt
Food & Nutrition Coordinator for
Aspire
(219) 944-7400
76.lbritt2@nhaschools.com
FSMC: SFE-Southwest
Foodservice Excellence, LLC

Executive Contact

Dr. ReNae Robinson
Principal
(219) 944-7400
76.rrobinson@nhaschools.com

Commendations

- * The school food authority's (SFA) Buy American documentation is well maintained. Continue to calculate nondomestic food expense percentage each month.
- * All documentation for administrative review was well maintained, and the food service staff was knowledgeable of the program requirements.

General Program Compliance - Aspire Charter Academy (9685)

1007. On-site observations validate Off-Site Assessment Tool responses to Local School Wellness Policy questions and responses demonstrate compliance with FNS requirements

Finding 10140: Wellness Policy Review and Update

The following findings were noted regarding the review and update of the local school wellness policy:

1. The review and update of the local school wellness policy did not occur as required.
2. The results of the most recent assessment of the local school wellness policy are not available to the public.

Corrective Action:

As corrective action the following must occur:

1. LEAs must assess the wellness policy every 3 years, at a minimum. This assessment will determine compliance with the wellness policy, how the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies, and progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. The local school wellness policy must be reviewed and updated by the wellness committee. A copy of the assessment and updated wellness policy must be submitted to the State Agency.
2. Provide proof that the results of the most recent assessment have been communicated to the public, including progress toward meeting the goals of the policy.

Technical Assistance:

Wellness policy resources can be found at the following website: <https://www.in.gov/doe/nutrition/wellness-policies/>.



SNP Administrative Review Findings

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Program Year 2026

Aspire Charter Academy (4043)

4900 W 15th Ave
Gary, IN 46406-2308

Food Service Contact

Ms. Latiffany Britt
Food and Nutrition Coordinator for
Aspire
(219) 944-7400

Month of Review: March 2026

Date of Onsite Review: April 22, 2026

Other Federal Programs - Aspire Charter Academy (4043)

7. Site monitored in first 4 weeks of operation, date, deficiencies/CA?

Finding 9228: Afterschool Snack Program Monitoring

The SFA has monitored this site's Afterschool Snack Program, however, the incorrect form was used. The same monitoring form was also used for both on site monitoring visits.

Corrective Action:

Monitoring must be completed by someone not involved in the day-to-day operation of the ASSP. As corrective action, the SFA must monitor the ASSP, and a copy of the completed monitoring form must be included in the submission of the corrective action. A timeline must also be submitted explaining when monitoring visits for the year will be conducted.

Technical Assistance:

Afterschool Snack Program information and resources can be found here: https://www.in.gov/doi/nutrition/after-school-snack-program/#Operating_the_Program.

Meal Components & Quantities - Aspire Charter Academy (4043)

403. Day of Review- fluid milk (or allowable substitutions) was available in at least two allowable varieties throughout the serving period on all meal service lines

Technical Assistance - Milk Variety

As a reminder, schools and facilities operating the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program must offer a variety (at least two types) of milk during both meal services. On the day of review, there was an instance where there was only one option for milk.



Dietary Specifications - Aspire Charter Academy (4043)

605. *Dietary Specifications (Calories, Saturated Fat, Sodium, and Trans Fat) were met for the appropriate age/grade group being served. How is the SFA working towards transitional standards for sodium? Add sugar limit technical assistance here.*

Technical Assistance- School Nutrition Standards

USDA Final Rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans has established added sugar limits for the following products served in the School Nutrition Programs effective July 1, 2025: breakfast cereals, yogurt, and flavored milk. Weekly added sugar limits are to be implemented beginning July 1, 2027.

Additional information and updates to school nutrition standards can be found at the following link:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/school-nutrition-standards-updates>.

General Program Compliance - Aspire Charter Academy (4043)

1411. *Review of agricultural food components indicates violations of the Buy American provision*

Technical Assistance- USDA Buy American Provision

USDA has recently updated guidance to program sponsors regarding the Buy American provision. The following are some of the Buy American requirements that have been codified in regulations: Two limited exceptions when non-domestic foods may be purchased by school food authorities; A new threshold for school food authorities that use exceptions (in SY 2025-26, the non-domestic food purchases cap will be 10 percent); The requirement for SFAs to maintain documentation to demonstrate the use of exceptions. Visit the following website to view additional requirements: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/buy-american-provisions>. A recorded webinar on updates to the Buy American provision can be found here:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/buy-american-provisions/webinar>. A copy of the USDA Buy American tracking tool can be downloaded here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/SP23-2024a.xlsx>.