

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: School Year 2026-27 National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Special Milk Programs

_____ today announced its policy for free and reduced-price lunch, breakfast, milk, and after-school snacks for those students unable to pay the full price for meals and snacks under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program.

The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility.

Income Eligibility Guidelines <i>Effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027</i>											
Free Meals <i>130% Federal Poverty Guideline</i>						Reduced Price Meals <i>185% Federal Poverty Guideline</i>					
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	20,748	1,729	865	798	399	1	29,526	2,461	1,231	1,136	568
2	28,132	2,345	1,173	1,082	541	2	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770
3	35,516	2,960	1,480	1,366	683	3	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972
4	42,900	3,575	1,788	1,650	825	4	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175
5	50,284	4,191	2,096	1,934	967	5	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377
6	57,668	4,806	2,403	2,218	1,109	6	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579
7	65,052	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251	7	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781
8	72,436	6,037	3,019	2,786	1,393	8	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983
For each additional household member, add:						For each additional household member, add:					
	7,384	616	308	284	142		10,508	876	438	405	203

Children from households that meet Federal guidelines are eligible for free or reduced-price meal services. Complete one application per household for all children that attend the same school district.

All meals served must meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture meal requirements. However, if a child has been determined by a doctor to have a disability and the disability would prevent the child from eating the regular school meal, this school will make substitutions prescribed by the doctor. If a substitution is needed, there will be no extra charge for the meal. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please contact the school for further information.

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced-price meal services, households must complete the application as soon as possible, sign it, and return it to the school. Additional copies of the application form are available in the principal's office in each school. Households should answer all applicable questions on the form. An application that does not contain all the required information cannot be processed and approved by the school. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants may be eligible for free/reduced-price meals and are encouraged to complete an application for benefits.

The required information is as follows:

- **SNAP/TANF HOUSEHOLDS:** If the school provided you a letter that stated your child(ren) is eligible for free meals via the direct certification process, you do not have to complete this application to receive free meal benefits. Households that currently receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for their child(ren) only have to list the child(ren)'s name and at least one SNAP or TANF case number and sign the application. If at least one SNAP/TANF case number is provided for **any** household member, then all children listed on the application are categorically eligible for free meals. Applications listing LINK card numbers cannot be used for free or reduced-price meals.
- **ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS:** If a household's income is at or below the level shown on the income scale, children are eligible for either free or reduced-price meal services. Households must provide the following information: (1) the names of all household members; (2) the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member signing the application (or indicate if the adult does not have a social security number); (3) the amount of income each household member received last month, how frequently it is paid, and where it comes from (wages, child support, etc.); and (4) the signature of an adult household member.

The information on the application may be checked by school or other officials at any time during the school year.

Households may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. Households that are not eligible now but have a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, or a household member that becomes unemployed, should fill out an application at that time.

Homeless, migrant, runaway youth, Head Start, and foster care children are categorically eligible for free meals. Please follow instructions and return the form to the school.

Households that do not agree with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss it with the school. Households also have the right to a fair hearing. This can be done by calling or writing the following official:

Name/Title _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mailing Address

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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