

## **Free/Reduced Lunches**

Children from households that meet the Federal income guidelines (outlined below) are eligible for free meals or reduced price meals. To apply for free or reduced price meals, complete the enclosed application, sign it and return it to the school as soon as possible. Please refer to the guidelines contained in this letter when completing the application.

### *How to apply*

To get free or reduced price meals for your children you must submit a **Direct Certification letter received from the Department of Social services, or carefully complete the application** and return it to the school. If you now receive food stamps, AFDC, or ADC or TNAF for any children, or participate in the FDIPR, the application must include the children's names, the household food stamp AFDC, ADC or FDPIR number and the signature of an adult household member. All children with the same case number may be listed on the same application. Separate applications are required for children with different case numbers. If you do not list a food stamp/AFDC/ADC or FDPIR number for all the children for whom you are applying, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member got last month and where it comes from, and the signature of an adult household member and that adult's social security number or the word "none" if the adult does not have a social security number. An application that is not complete cannot be approved.

The following chart lists income levels according to household size and income levels received either yearly, monthly or weekly. If your total household income is the same or less than the amounts on the income chart, your children can get free meals or reduced price meals.

1999-2000 (through June 30, 2010)

**Reduced Price Eligibility Scale**  
**Reduced Price Lunch, Breakfast**

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	20,036	1,670	835	771	386
2	26,955	2,247	1,124	1,037	519
3	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
4	40,793	3,400	1,700	1,569	785
5	47,712	3,976	1,988	1,836	918
6	54,631	4,553	2,277	2,102	1,051
7	61,550	5,130	2,565	2,368	1,184
8	68,469	5,706	2,853	2,634	1,317
For each additional family member add	6,919	577	289	267	134

*Verification*

The school may ask you at any time during the school year to verify your eligibility. You will be notified in writing if you have been scheduled for verification.

*Income Exclusions*

The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) At Risk Child Care Programs should not be considered as income for this program.

*Foster Child*

Your foster child may be eligible for meal benefits. An application for a foster child must have the child's name, the child's personal use income and an adult signature.

*Non-discrimination*

Children who receive free or reduced price meal benefits are treated the same as children who pay for meals. IN THE OPERATION OF CHILD FEEDING PROGRAMS, NO CHILD WILL BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF RACE, GENDER, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, OR HANDICAP. IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, WRITE IMMEDIATELY TO THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, WASH., D.C.20250.

*Fair Hearing*

If you do not agree with the school's decision on your application or the result of verification, you may wish to discuss it with the school. You also have the

right to a fair hearing. This can be done by calling or writing the following official: P Poeller 433-1652

*Meal Service to Children with Disabilities*

Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability, which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of federal regulations, as one who has "...a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activities.." Major life activities are defined to include functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. You must request the special meals from the school and provide the school with medical certification from a medical doctor. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical certification must contain.

*Confidentiality*

The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students' names, addresses and eligibility status to school officials collecting data to be used for the Title 1 and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) programs. Title 1 and NAEP are United States Dept. of EDU programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to school, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. **Schools may not release the names and the eligibility status of students for any purpose other than Title 1 and NAEP without the consent of the child's parents or guardian.**