

THE LOUISIANA SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED – PUBLIC RELEASE (2014-2015)

The Louisiana Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired announces its policy for free and reduced price meals served under the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program(s). The Child Nutrition Office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Breakfast and Lunch will be offered to all students Monday through Friday. Dinner is offered to all residential students and students participating in the after school program, Monday through Thursday. The Child Nutrition Program follows the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act when planning school meals.

The following family size and annual income criteria will be used for determining eligibility when processing meal applications:

REDUCED PRICE MEALS – 185%						FREE MEALS – 130%				
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice/ Month	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice/ Month	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly
1	\$21,590	\$1,800	\$900	\$831	\$416	\$15,171	\$1,265	\$633	\$584	\$292
2	\$29,101	\$2,426	\$1,213	\$1,120	\$560	\$20,449	\$1,705	\$853	\$787	\$394
3	\$36,612	\$3,051	\$1,526	\$1,409	\$705	\$25,727	\$2,144	\$1,072	\$990	\$495
4	\$44,123	\$3,677	\$1,839	\$1,698	\$849	\$31,005	\$2,584	\$1,292	\$1,193	\$597
5	\$51,634	\$4,303	\$2,152	\$1,986	\$993	\$36,283	\$3,024	\$1,512	\$1,396	\$698
6	\$59,145	\$4,929	\$2,465	\$2,275	\$1,138	\$41,561	\$3,464	\$1,732	\$1,599	\$800
7	\$66,656	\$5,555	\$2,778	\$2,564	\$1,282	\$46,839	\$3,904	\$1,952	\$1,802	\$901
8	\$74,167	\$6,181	\$3,091	\$2,853	\$1,427	\$52,117	\$4,344	\$2,172	\$2,005	\$1,003
For each additional family member add:	+ \$7,511	+ \$626	+ \$313	+ \$289	+ \$145	+ \$5,278	+ \$440	+ \$220	+ \$203	+ \$102

Application forms are being sent to all homes, along with a letter to households. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households should fill out one application for the household and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. The information provided by the household is confidential; it will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Information may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

All children in households with any household member receiving benefits under Assistance Programs (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) or Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)) are eligible for free meals. For school officials to determine eligibility, each household that is now receiving benefits from Assistance Programs must provide the case number of a household member as well as the signature of an adult household member.

All other households must provide the following information on the application: names of all household members; the amount of income (before deductions for taxes, Social Security, etc.) each household member receives; how often the person receives the income; where it is from, such as wages, retirement, or welfare; the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct; and the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signed the application, or a statement that the household member does not possess one.

Children categorized as foster, homeless, runaway, migrant, or enrolled in state-funded Head Start or Even Start programs, **if known**, are automatically eligible for free meals. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from the program office and notify the household of their eligibility for benefits. The household must notify the school if it chooses to decline benefits. The household **should complete an application if they are not notified of free meal eligibility by: August 22, 2014.**

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school.

Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for meal benefits.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price policy, the Child Nutrition Program will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian should have any questions, please contact the Child Nutrition Office at 225-757-3233 or 225-757-3232.

Non-discrimination Statement: The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.