#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Tredyffrin Easttown School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs Elementary \$1.60, Middle \$1.65, High School \$2.10; lunch costs Elementary \$2.95, Middle \$3.15/\$3.45, High School \$3.45, \$3.75, \$4.20, \$4.50. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

If you have received a **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** letter for free meals, **do not** complete the application. But **do** let the school know if any children in your household are not listed on the **Notice of Direct Certification** letter you received.

- 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS OR SPECIAL MILK?
  - All children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits are eligible for free meals.
  - Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
  - Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
  - Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
  - Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

ļ	FEDERAL ELIGIBILIT	FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2018-2019						
	Household size	Annual	Monthly	Weekly				
Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals/milk if your household income falls at or below the limits on this	1	22,459	1,872	432				
	2	30,451	2,538	586				
	3	38,443	3,204	740				
chart.	4	46,435	3,870	893				
chart.	5	54,427	4,536	1,047				
	6	62,419	5,202	1,201				
	7	70,411	5,868	1,355				
	8	78,403	6,534	1,508				
	Each additional person:	7,992	666	154				

- 2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, call or email Chris Groppe, 610-240-1919 groppec@tesd.net.
- 3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Tredyffrin Easttown School District, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1700, Wayne Pa. 19087 Attn: Food and Nutrition Services.
- 4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but read the letter you received carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification letter, contact Mita Barot at 610-240-1956 or barotm@tesd.net immediately.
- 5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit the PA Department of Human Services website at <u>www.compass.state.pa.us</u>.
- 6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

- 7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC <u>may</u> be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Send in an application.
- 8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
- 9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and or reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to David Francella at 610-240-1933 or email at francellad@tesd.net.
- 11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
- 12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you <u>normally</u> receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will <u>also</u> be counted as zeroes. Be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you <u>meant</u> to do so.
- 14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
- 15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact Mita Barot at 610-240-1956 or email barotm@tesd.net to receive a second application.
- 16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, visit www.compass.state.pa.us, contact your local assistance office, or call 1-800-692-7462.

If you have other questions or need help, call 610-240-1956 or 1955.

Sincerely,

#### David Preston

Food and Nutrition Services Supervisor

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, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at, <a href="http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html">http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html</a> 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 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

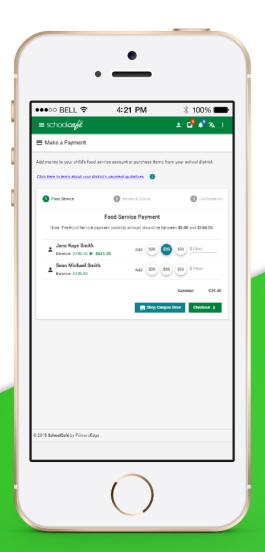
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# One app for your entire cafeteria

# PAYMENTS MADE EASY

With email and push notifications, parents can stay on top of their student's account balance. Low balance reminders make sure parents never miss a payment and students always have adequate funds in their account.



Schoolcafe replace PayPams for the 2018-2019 School year. All balances have been transferred, but you will have to set-up your new account for schoolcafe at the web address below!

www.schoolcafe.com







Tredyffrin Easttown School District

#### Contact SchoolCafé Support: 6:00 am to 6:00 pm

Phone:855.PAY2EAT (855) 729-2328Email:customercare@schoolcafe.comWebsite:www.schoolcafe.com

SchoolCafé provides a secure, online system for parents to

- Make payments to their student(s) cafeteria-meal account(s)
- Set Low Balance Alerts for each account
- Review your student's buying history

#### **Quick Answers**

1. How do I add money/make a payment to my child's account?

You can continue to send money to school with your student or you can add money through SchoolCafé. Follow the steps in Make a Payment in this guide.

2. I made an online payment. When can my student use the payment?

Your student's cafeteria account at the school is credited within 24 hours but may become available as quickly as 2 hours.

3. Is there a fee or service charge for making online payments?

A \$2.25 convenience fee **is** charged for each online payment transaction. For example, if you make a \$50.00 payment, the convenience fee is \$2.25. Therefore, the total debited from your credit card is \$52.25. The available funds for your child will be \$50.00.

- Can I receive notification when my student's account balance is low? Yes! Follow the steps in Set Up a Low Balance Alert in this guide.
- 5. Why was my account locked when making a payment? After three failed payment attempts, payment function is locked. Contact SchoolCafé to remove the lock.
- 6. What if I have several students in different schools? Include as many students as you need in your account. The students can attend any school within the same district. Payments for each student are made separately.
- 7. Can I transfer money from one child to another? Contact the Food and Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a transfer. Mita Barot barotm@tesd.net.
- 8. What happens to the money in my account at the end of the school year?

Your account balance moves with your student(s) from grade to grade and school to school within the district. Contact the Food and Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a refund by contacting Mita Barot at barotm@tesd.net

9. How do I receive a refund if my child changes school districts? Contact Mita Barot at barotm@tesd.net for assistance with a

refund.

- 10. What if I don't see my student listed? The student may not be enrolled into the student information system yet. Check with the school of enrollment or wait a day or two and try again.
- © 2016 Cybersoft Technologies

# 1 Register

- a Click Register
- **b** Verify "**I'm registering as a Parent**" is selected and click **Next Step**
- c Enter your school district name and then click Next Step
- **d** Enter your name and contact information, and then click **Next Step**
- e Set up your username and password
- f Select a Security Question and enter a Security Answer, and click Next Step
- g Click **I'm not a robot** and follow the reCAPTCHA prompts
- h Check I accept the Terms & Conditions and click Create My Account

# 2 Add Your Student(s)

- a Click Students  $\rightarrow$  Student Accounts
- **b** Click Add a Student
- c Enter your **Student's ID** [and **Lunch PIN**, if asked] and select your student's **School**
- d Click Search & Verify Student
- e Click Add this Student

## Set Automatic Payment

- 1 Click Students → Student Accounts
- 2 Click Automatic Payment  $\Im$  ) in a student listing
- 3 Enter **Payment Amount** and enter amount in **Balance Threshold** to trigger payment
- 4 Select a **Payment Source** and set **Auto Pay Expiration Date** for stop payment date
- 5 Click Add Automatic Payment

- \* You will be asked to verify your security answer and contact information when you request help with your username, password, or other information on your Profile page.
- \* References may have changed, please go to <u>www.schoolcafe.com</u> for additional help.

# 3 Add Payment Source

- a Click My Account → Payment Sources
- b Click Add a Card
- c Enter your **Card Number** and **Card Expiration** date
- d Enter a name to associate with this card, if wanted
- e Click Add Card

### 4 Make a Payment

- a Click Students → Student Accounts
- **b** Click Make a Payment
- c Enter **Payment** dollar amount
- d Click

f

e Select a **Payment Method**, or enter card information for a one-time payment

Click Submit Payment >

# Set Low Balance Alerts

- 1 Click Students → Student Accounts
- 2 Click **Low Balance Alert** (1) in a student listing
- 3 Enter Threshold amount
- 4 Enter number of days to elapse between alerts



### HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS or SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM

Use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced-price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, <u>even if</u> your children attend more than one school in Tredyffrin Easttown (TESD). The application must be filled out completely to certify your children for free or reduced-price school meals. Follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, contact Mita Barot at 610-240-1956 or barotm@tesd.net

#### USE A PEN (NOT A PENCIL) WHEN FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION AND DO YOUR BEST TO PRINT CLEARLY.

#### STEP 1: LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WHO ARE INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12

Tell us how many infants, children, and school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

Who should I list here? When filling out this section, include ALL members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under AND are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a foster arrangement, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending school/school system, <u>regardless of age.</u>

A) List each child's name. Print each child's	B) Is the child a student at TESD?	C) Do you have any foster children? If any children	D) Are any children homeless, migrant,
name. Use one line of the application for each	Mark 'Yes' or 'No' under the	listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child"	or runaway? If you believe any child
child. When printing names, write one letter	column titled "Student" to tell us	box next to the child's name. If you are ONLY	listed in this section meets this
in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If	which children attend TESD. If you	applying for foster children, after finishing STEP 1,	description, mark the "Homeless,
there are more children present than lines on	marked 'Yes,' write the grade	go to STEP 4.	Migrant, Runaway" box next to the
the application, attach a second piece of	level of the student in the 'Grade'	Foster children who live with you may count as	child's name and <u>complete all steps of</u>
paper with all required information for the	column to the left.	members of your household and should be listed	the application.
additional children.		on your application. If you are applying for both	
		foster and non-foster children, go to step 3.	

#### STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SNAP or TANF?

If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

A) If no one in your household participates in any of the	B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:
above listed programs:	• Write a case number for SNAP or TANF. You only need to provide one case number. If you participate in
• Leave STEP 2 blank and go to STEP 3.	one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact: 1-877-395-8930 or your local
	assistance office.
	• Go to STEP 4.

#### **STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

#### How do I report my income?

- Use the charts titled "Sources of Income for Adults" and "Sources of Income for Children" printed on the back side of the application form to determine if your household has income to report.
- Report all amounts in GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
- o Gross income is the total income received before taxes.
- Many people think of income as the amount they "take home" and not the total "gross" amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has NOT been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.

- Write a "0" in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will also be counted as a zero. If you write '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials suspect that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be investigated.
- Mark how often each type of income is received using the check boxes to the right of each field.

#### **3.A. REPORT INCOME EARNED BY CHILDREN**

A) Report all income earned or received by children. Report the combined gross income for ALL children listed in STEP 1 in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

What is Child Income? Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid DIRECTLY to your children. Many households do not have any child income.

#### **3.B REPORT INCOME EARNED BY ADULTS**

#### Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, include ALL adult members in your household who are living with you and share income and expenses, even if they are not related and even if they do not receive income of their own.
- Do NOT include:
  - People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household.
- Infants, Children, and Students already listed in **STEP 1.**

	o mants, children, and students already instea in STEP 1.					
B) List adult household members'	C) Report earnings from work. Report all income from work in the	D) Report income from public assistance/child				
names. Print the name of each	"Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the	support/alimony. Report all income that applies in the "Public				
household member in the boxes marked	money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed	Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do				
"Names of Adult Household Members	business or farm owner, you will report your net income.	not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits NOT				
(First and Last)." <u>Do not list any</u>		listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or				
household members you listed in STEP	What if I am self-employed? Report income from that work as a	alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but				
<u><b>1</b></u> . If a child listed in <b>STEP 1</b> has income,	net amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating	regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the				
follow the instructions in <b>STEP 3, part A.</b>	expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.	next part.				
E) Report income from	F) Report total household size. Enter the total number of	G) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.				
pensions/retirement/all other income.	household members in the field "Total Household Members	An adult household member must enter the last four digits of				
Report all income that applies in the	(Children and Adults)". This number MUST be equal to the number	their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are				
"Pensions/Retirement/All Other	of household members listed in <b>STEP 1</b> and <b>STEP 3</b> . If there are any	eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social				
Income" field on the application.	members of your household that you have not listed on the	Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social				
	application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all	Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to				
	household members, as the size of your household affects your	the right labeled "Check if no SSN."				
	eligibility for free and reduced-price meals.					

#### **STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE**

All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, also make sure you have read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.

A) Provide your contact information. Write your current	B) Print and sign your name. Print	C) Write today's date.	D) Share children's racial and ethnic identities
address in the fields provided if this information is available.	the name of the adult signing the	In the space provided,	(optional). On the back of the application, we ask
If you have no permanent address, this does not make your	application and that person signs	write today's date in	you to share information about your children's race
children ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals.	in the box "Signature of adult."	the box.	and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not
Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional,			affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-
but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.			price school meals.

# STEP 1 List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper)

Member: "Anyone who is living with you and shares		MI	Child's Last Name				Grade Enter HS for Head Start	Student? Yes No	Foster Migrant, Child Runaway
income and expenses, even									
if not related."									apply
Children in <b>Foster care</b> and children who meet the									all that apply
definition of Homeless, Migrant or Runaway are									Check a
eligible for free meals. Read How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School									
Meals for more information.									
STEP 2 Do any H	lousehold Members (includi	ing you) current	y participate in one	or more of the	following	g assistanc	e programs	: SNAP or	TANF?
						Case Number: _			
	If NO > Go to STEP 3.	<b>YES &gt;</b> Write a case	number here then go to STEP	4 (Do not complete STR	<u>EP 3</u> )	Write only one nir	ne (9) digit case num	per in this space.	
STEP 3 Report In	ncome for all Household me	mbers (Skip thi	s step if you answe	red YES to Ste	p 2				
-	A. Child Income				- Child ind	come Week	How often?	Nonthly	
	Sometimes children in the household earn Household Members listed in STEP 1 here		e include the TOTAL income rea	ceived by all	\$				
	B. All Adult Household Members (i				Ψ		0 0		
Are you unsure what income to include here?	List all Household Members not listed in S	TEP 1 (including yourself)	even if they do not receive inco	me. For each Household	Member liste	d, if they do receiv	e income, report to	otal gross incom	ne (before taxes)
Flip the page and review	for each source in whole dollars (no cents) If no income is received from any sour		'0' or leave any fields blank,	ou are certifying (prom			to report.		
the charts titled "Sources						w ofton?			
the charts titled "Sources of Income" for more	Name of Adult Household Members (First and La	st) Earnings from Work	How often?	Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony		w often? Bi-Weekly 2x Month M	Pensions/Retir	00	How often?
of Income" for more information.	Name of Adult Household Members (First and La			Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony		Bi-Weekly 2x Month M			How often?
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will	Name of Adult Household Members (First and Lat	\$		support/Alimony			All Other Incom	00	
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income	Name of Adult Household Members (First and La	\$		Support/Alimony			All Other Incon All Other Incon	00	
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will help you with the Child	Name of Adult Household Members (First and Lat	\$		support/Alimony			All Other Incom	00	
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will help you with the Child Income section. The "Sources of Income for Adults" chart will help you with the All Adult Household Members	Name of Adult Household Members (First and Lat	\$		SupportAlimony hly Annual \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$			All Other Incon All Other Incon	00	
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will help you with the Child Income section. The "Sources of Income for Adults" chart will help you with the All Adult	Name of Adult Household Members (First and Lat	\$		Support/Alimony htty Annual \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$			All Other Incon All Other Incon All Other Incon	00	
of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will help you with the Child Income section. The "Sources of Income for Adults" chart will help you with the All Adult Household Members	Name of Adult Household Members (First and Lat	\$		Support/Alimony hty Annual \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$			All Other Incon All Other Incon All Other Incon	00	

Printed name of adult signing the form

Signature of adult

Today's date

Sources of In	Sources of Income for Children		Sources of Income for Adults			
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)	Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income		
- Earnings from work	- A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages	- Gross Salary, wages, cash bonuses	- Unemployment benefits - Worker's compensation	- Social Security (including railroad retirement and		
<ul><li>Social Security</li><li>Disability Payments</li></ul>	<ul> <li>A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits</li> <li>Net income from s employment (farm business)</li> </ul>	employment (farm or	<ul> <li>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</li> <li>Cash assistance from State or local government</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>black lung benefits)</li> <li>Private pensions or disability benefits</li> </ul>		
Survivor's Benefits	- A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits	reperting / under neerie to		- Regular income from trusts or estates		
- Income from person outside the household	- A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money	self-employment If you are in the U.S. Military: - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do	<ul> <li>Alimony payments</li> <li>Child support payments</li> <li>Veteran's benefits</li> <li>Strike benefits</li> </ul>	- Annuities - Investment income - Earned interest - Rental income		
- Income from any other source	- A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust	NOT include combatpay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) - Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing		<ul> <li>Regular cash payments from outside household</li> </ul>		

#### **OPTIONAL** Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity (check one):	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic o	r Latino			
Race (check one or more	e): 🔲 American Indian	or Alaskan Native	🗌 Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition program sto help them evaluate, fund, or determine look into violations of program rules.

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, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html, 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:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

fax: (202) 690-7442; or

email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

\* All Household Applications must be returned to your child's school for processing.

#### Do not fill out For School Use Only

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice A Month x 24, Monthly x 12						
Total Income:	Per: 🗆 Week, 🗆 Every 2 Weeks, 🗆 Twice A Month, 🗆 Monthly, 🗆 Year	y, Household Size:_	Date Withdrawn:			
Eligibility:	Reduced Denied Reason:	Categorically Eligible	Other Source Categorically Eligible Determining Official's Signature:	Date:		
Confirming Official's Signature (c	annot be the Determining Official):	Date:	Signature of School Employee Completing Verification:	Date:		

#### SHARING INFORMATION WITH MEDICAID/SCHIP

If your children get free or reduced price school meals, they <u>may</u> also be able to get free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Children with health insurance are more likely to get regular health care and are less likely to miss school because of sickness. Because health insurance is so important to children's well-being, *the law allows us to tell Medicaid and SCHIP that your children are eligible for free or reduced price meals, unless you tell us not to.* Medicaid and SCHIP only use the information to identify children who may be eligible for their programs. Program officials may contact you to offer to enroll your children. Filling out the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application does not automatically enroll your children in health insurance. If you do not want us to share your information with Medicaid or SCHIP, fill out the form below and send in (Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals).

**No! I DO NOT** want information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application shared with Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

#### If you checked NO, fill out the form below.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Printed Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Address:

Child's Name:	School:	Child's Name	School:
Child's Name:	School:	Child's Name	School:
Child's Name:	School:	Child's Name	School:
Signature of Parent/Guardian: Printed Name: Address:		Date:	

#### SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

To save you time and effort, the information you gave on your Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application may be shared with other programs for which your children may qualify. For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals.

	<b>NO! I DO NOT</b> want information from my l	F/R Meals Application shared with any	y of these programs.	_				
	1. Yes! I <b>DO</b> want school officials to share in Achievement Test (SAT).	nformation from my F/R Price School I	Meals Application with price academic testing, i.e., Standa	ırd				
	2. Yes! I <b>DO</b> want school officials to share information from my F/R Price School Meals Application with Head Start Meals or child care services provided by the school or in a program operating in classroom space; i.e. A Child's Place, in the school building.							
		5,	Meals Application with local health organizations that ma aced price school sponsored medical services.	ıy				
		5,	Meals Application with school district personnel that may ther District activities and services; i.e. school supplies,	7				
			Meals Application school district personnel that may han those provided by the Perkins Vocational and Technical	l				
	6. Yes! I <b>DO</b> want school officials to share in local education services; i.e. free or reduced		Meals Application to determine my child(ren)'s eligibility fo s at a free or reduced price.	r				
5	hecked <b>Yes</b> to any or all of the boxes above, fil ation will be shared only with the programs yo	5	our information is shared for the child(ren) listed below. You	ır				
Child's Na	Name:School:	Child's Name	School:					
Child's Na	Name:School:	Child's Name	School:					
Child's Na	Name:School:	Child's Name	School:					

For more information, you may call **FNS Department** at **(610) 240-1956**. Return this form to: Food and Nutrition Services, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1700, Wayne, PA 19087 as soon as possible.

Date:

#### Food and Nutrition Services

#### School Meal Account Procedures / Meal Charging Policy

A student's meal status is always kept confidential. All students have accounts to purchase their meals and are treated the same at the register.

Parents/guardians are responsible for their student's cafeteria food purchases and are expected to maintain payments on any outstanding account balance for cafeteria food purchases. Parents/guardians may request in writing that the District restrict their child's purchase of a la carte food items and/or meals at any time.

The procedures for notifying parents/guardians of low and negative balances and collecting negative balances are detailed below. However, students will be permitted to charge meals (breakfast and/or lunch), and will not be denied a meal because of the insufficient funds in their student meal accounts. In addition to purchasing a meal, students are permitted to charge a la carte food items, even if their individual student meal accounts lack sufficient funds, as long as their balance is not negative \$50 or more. In any event, the District will initiate procedures to restrict a la carte purchases when the student's negative meal account balance exceeds \$50 and the student will only be permitted to purchase a breakfast and lunch meal.

Students may not be publicly identified or stigmatized, or required to perform chores or other work when they cannot pay or have a negative student meal account balance. Schools will not require a student to discard a school meal after it has been served to the student, even if the student is unable to pay for the meal or has a negative student meal account balance.

#### Low & Negative Account Balance Notification

If a student has an account balance of \$5.00 or less, the parent/guardian will be notified at least weekly by email or a notice distributed in homeroom or in student folders that are brought home to the parent/guardian. The envelope containing this notice should be marked "confidential – to be opened by addressee only." If the student's outstanding account balance due reaches or exceeds five (5) school meals, including breakfasts and/or lunches, a request for payment letter will be mailed or emailed to the student's parent/guardian, which shall also include a request that the parent/guardian apply to participate in the school food program. In addition, a school official will contact the parent/guardian to resolve the outstanding account balance due by one or more of the following methods: telephone, electronic communication, certified letter, and again request that the parent/guardian apply to participate in the school food program. These contacts will continue until the outstanding account balance due is satisfied or has been determined to be uncollectible.

If the student's outstanding account balance due is in excess of \$50.00 and remains unpaid for more than 30 days, the parent/guardian may incur additional collection charges on the outstanding balance. If a good faith effort is not made towards payment of the outstanding balance due, then a referral to an outside authority or agency may be made.

Parents/guardians experiencing economic hardships may request payment arrangements from the District.

#### Additional Information

The Principal or designee shall notify Food and Nutrition Services regarding departing students so that account balances can be rectified prior to their departure. Information on meal prices, menus, how to apply for free or reduced priced meals, how to check a school meal account balance or add funds to such accounts can be found on the District's Food and Nutrition Services webpage.

#### Delinquent School Meal Account Debt

After taking reasonable steps to collect delinquent school meal debt, which shall include at least two written correspondences, as outlined above, to the student's parent/guardian, unrecovered/delinquent debt at the end of each school year shall be referred to the Business Manager for appropriate action. Such unrecovered/delinquent debt shall be considered bad debt and non-federal funding sources must repay the Food Service Fund for the total amount of such unrecovered/delinquent debt. Delinquent school meal debt shall not be classified as bad debt for write off purposes until after reasonable steps have been taken to collect such delinquent school meal debt.

From time to time, parents/guardians or other individuals may choose to donate funds to the District. Donated funds may not be co-mingled with food service funds from federal or state sources or food sales. Instead, donations must be made to the District's General Fund, and transferred to the Food Service Fund at the appropriate time to offset unrecovered/delinquent student meal debt. Donated funds will not be applied to individual student meal account balances, but instead as an overall reduction of the amount of funds that would otherwise need to be transferred from the General Fund to the Food Service Fund at the end of the school year to repay the Food Service Fund for unrecovered/delinquent debt.

#### **Distribution**

This Administrative Regulation, detailing the District's local meal charge policy, shall be provided in writing to each household at the beginning of the school year, and during the school year to households who transfer to the District during the school year.

Adopted: November 2005 Revised: October 20, 2016 Revised: May 18, 2017 Revised: February 1, 2018