

School district outlines how to receive free, reduced priced meals

August 6, 2020



The Del Norte County Unified School District makes nutritious meals available every school day under the national lunch, breakfast and after-school snack programs.

Through June 30, 2021, DNSUD students including Sunset High and Del Norte Community schools, are eligible for free meals under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Although all state preschool students also eat free, they are required to complete the Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications.

The CEP has the following eligibility guidelines to qualify for the free meals:

Household size — 1, yearly income limit of \$23,606; monthly limit of \$1,968; twice a month limit of \$984; every two weeks limit of \$908; and a weekly limit of \$454

Household size — 2, yearly income limit of \$31,384; monthly limit of \$2,658; twice a month limit of \$1,329; every two weeks limit of \$1,227; and a weekly limit of \$614

Household size — 3, yearly income limit of \$40,182; monthly limit of \$3,349; twice a month limit of \$1,675; every two weeks limit of \$1,546; and a weekly limit of \$773

Household size — 4, yearly income limit of \$48,470; monthly limit of \$4,040; twice a month limit of \$2,020; every two weeks limit of \$1,865; and a weekly limit of \$933

Household size — 5, yearly income limit of \$56,758; monthly limit of \$4,730; twice a month limit of \$2,365; every two weeks limit of \$2,183; and a weekly limit of \$1,092

Household size — 6, yearly income limit of \$65,046; monthly limit of \$5,421; twice a month limit of \$2,711; every two weeks limit of \$2,502; and a weekly limit of \$1,251

Household size — 7, yearly income limit of \$73,334; monthly limit of \$6,112; twice a month limit of \$3,056; every two weeks limit of \$2,821; and a weekly limit of \$1,411

Household size — 8, yearly income limit of \$81,622; monthly limit of \$6,802; twice a month limit of \$3,401; every two weeks limit of \$3,140; and a weekly limit of \$1,570

For each additional family member add — yearly income \$8,288; monthly \$691; twice a month \$346; every two weeks \$319; and a weekly \$160.

Households do not need to turn in an application when the household receives a notification letter saying that all children automatically qualify free meals when any household member receives benefits from CalFresh, CalWORKs or FDPIR. Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant or runaway, and children enrolled in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.

Contact school officials if any child in the household is not on the notification letter. The household must let school officials know if they do not want to receive free or reduced-price meals.

Applications will be sent to the household with a letter about the free and reduced-price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits must fill out one application for all children in the household and return it to their child's school office. The Nutrition Services Department will let parents know if their application is approved or denied free or reduced-price meals.

Households may turn in an application at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now, but your household income goes down, household size goes up, or a household member starts receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR, you may turn in an application at that time. Information given on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school officials. The last four digits of the Social Security number from any adult household or checking that you do not have a Social Security number is required if you include income on the application.

Households that receive Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefits, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals by filling out an application.

Foster children are eligible for free meals and may be included as a household member if the foster family chooses to also apply for the non-foster children on the same application. Including foster children as a household member may help the non-foster children qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If the non-foster children are not eligible, this does not keep foster children from receiving free meals.

Your child's eligibility status from last school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 school days or until the school processes your new application or your child is otherwise certified free or reduced-price meals. After the 30 school days, your child will have to pay full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials do not have to send reminder or expired eligibility notices.

If you do not agree with the decision or results of verification, you may discuss it with school officials. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by writing the hearing official Jeff Napier at 301 W. Washington Blvd., Crescent City or calling 707-464-0202.

