

Memorandum

Date: June 24, 2021
To: All School Food Authorities
From: *MB* Mary Burks, Director of School Support
Subject: 2021-2022 Free/Reduced Price Meal Application

Enclosed is a copy of the 2021-2022 Prototype Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals to be printed front and back on letter-size paper. For School year 2021-2022, as stated in memo code SP 15-2021, SFSP 08-2021, you must make school meal applications available as needed to certify children for free and reduced-price meals, and that information may be used to qualify newly eligible children for SY 2021-2022 and summer 2022 P-EBT benefits. The prototype application is available at this weblink: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/applying-free-and-reduced-price-school-meals>

If participating in the SSO, the eligibility status, based on the application, will not change a student's access to meals at no charge. For example, if a family completes an application in an effort to qualify for PEBT, the SFA should process the application, but the children should continue to receive free meals through SSO, regardless of the information provided in the application.

When preparing your meal application form for SY 21-22, only the School Year needs to be changed. Also included are letters/forms titled:

- Sharing Information with Medicaid/CHIP
- Income Eligibility Guidelines
- How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals
- Eligibility Manual for School Meals: Determining and Verifying Eligibility

These items can also be found on the Child Nutrition (CN) website at <https://mdek12.org/OCN/SS>.

- Verification is required if you collect meal applications.
- Fact Sheet to support districts in determining alternate methods of allocating Title 1 funds when school meal data are unavailable is at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/department-education-guidance-implementation-child-nutrition-program-waivers>

The Local Education Agency cannot accept and process applications before beginning the federally defined School Year that is July 1 through June 30.

If you have additional questions, please contact your program specialist or the Help Desk at 601-576-5000

21-18-CN
Attachments

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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