FREE & REDUCED SCHOOL MEALS





Has your income status recently changed? Not familiar with the USDA Free & Reduced Meal Program?

It is never too late to apply for Free or Reduced Cost breakfast and lunch!!

School Meals Save You Money!

There are significant personal cost savings by participating in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

Based on the National average*, a high school student eating in the school café every day spends:

\$468.00 per year on lunch \$271.80

per year on breakfast

By utilizing Free or Reduced meal benefits, those costs for lunch an entire year could be:

\$0.00 for Free students

\$72.00 for Reduced students

*average and calculation per the USDA

Did you know you can apply for school meals any time during the school year by submitting an application directly to your school or district?

You may ask for an application any time during the school year. If you're earning at or below current <u>Income Eligibility</u> <u>Guidelines</u>, you are encouraged to contact your school or district to fill out a school meal application. Applications are reviewed by local school or district officials before granting free or reduced price benefits. If you receive <u>Supplemental</u> <u>Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</u> benefits, all of your children who attend school automatically qualify for free school meals. Participation in other Federal assistance programs, including <u>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families</u> (<u>TANF</u>) also provides automatic eligibility. Please contact your school to determine if you need to fill out an application.

You can trust that your family information is kept confidential and can only be used for determining eligibility for free or reduced price meals at school. Free and Reduced Program status information is confidential and will not identify or single out any students on the program.

For more information, or to apply, visit: https://www.north-reading.k12.ma.us/district/foodservices/pages/free-and-reduced-lunch-information Or please contact: Rosaly MacKillop at 978-526-5252

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8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <u>How to File a Program Discrimination</u> <u>Complaint</u> 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: <u>program.intake@usda.gov</u>. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.