

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The ESUSD participates in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program by offering nutritious meals every school day. Students may buy lunch for \$3.00 and breakfast for \$2.50. Eligible students may receive meals free of charge or at the reduced-price rate of \$0.40 for lunch and \$0.30 for breakfast. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If there are more household members than the number of lines on the application, attach a second application. For a simple and secure method to apply, use our online application at www.esusd.org.

LETTER TO HOUSEHOLD FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

QUALIFICATION: Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the federal Income Eligibility Guidelines below.

DIRECT CERTIFICATION: An application is not required if the household receives a notification letter indicating all children are automatically certified for free meals. If you did not receive a letter, please complete an application.

application.

Income Eligibility Guidelines

Effective July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020

Household Size	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$ 16,237	\$1,354	\$677	\$ 625	\$ 313
2	21,983	1,832	916	846	423
3	27,729	2,311	1,156	1,067	534
4	33,475	2,790	1,395	1,288	644
5	39,221	3,269	1,635	1,509	755
6	44,967	3,748	1,874	1,730	865
7	50,713	4,227	2,114	1,951	976
8	56,459	4,705	2,353	2,172	1,086
For each additional family member, add:					
	\$ 5,746	\$479	\$240	\$221	\$ 111

APPLYING FOR BENEFITS: An application for free or reduced-price meals cannot be reviewed unless all required fields are completed. A household may apply at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now, but your household income decreases, household size increases, or a household member becomes eligible for CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits, you may submit an application at that time.

FAIR HEARING: If you do not agree with the school's decision regarding your application's determination or the result of verification, you may discuss it with the hearing official. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by calling or writing the following: Heidi Torix, PO Box 575, Bridgeport, CA 93517 (760) 932-7443.

ELIGIBILITY CARRYOVER: Your child's eligibility status from the previous school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 operating days or until a new determination is made. When the carryover period ends, your child will be charged the full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials are not required to send reminder or expired eligibility notices.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS – Complete one application per household. Please print clearly with a pen. Incomplete, illegible, or incorrect information will delay processing.

STEP 1: STUDENT INFORMATION – Include ALL STUDENTS who attend ESUSD. Print their name (first, middle initial, last), school, grade level, and birthdate. If any student listed is a foster child, check the "Foster" box. If you are only applying for a foster child, complete STEP 1, and then continue to STEP 4. If any student listed may be homeless, migrant, or runaway, check the applicable "Homeless, Migrant, or Runaway" box and complete all STEPS of the application.

STEP 2: ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS – If ANY household member (child or adult) participates in CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR, then all children are eligible for free meals. Must check the applicable assistance program box, enter one case number, and then continue to STEP 4. If no one participates, skip STEP 2 and continue to STEP 3.

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS – MUST report GROSS income (before deductions) from ALL household members (children and adults) in whole dollars. Enter "or" for any household member that does not receive income.

- A) Report the combined GROSS income for all students listed in STEP 1 and enter the appropriate pay period. Include a foster child's income if you are applying for foster and non-foster children on the same application.
- B) Print the names (first and last) of ALL OTHER household members not listed in STEP 1, including yourself. Report the total GROSS income from each source and enter the appropriate pay period.
- C) Enter the total household size (children and adults). This number MUST equal the listed household members from STEP 1 and STEP 3.

D) Enter the last four digits of your Social Security number (SSN). If no adult household member has a SSN, check the "NO SSN" box.

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION & ADULT SIGNATURE – The application must be signed by an adult household member. Print the name of the adult signing the application, contact information, and today's date.

OPTIONAL: CHILDREN'S ETHNIC AND RACIAL IDENTITIES – This field is optional to complete and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals. Please check the appropriate boxes.

INFORMATION STATEMENT: 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 are not required when you list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your 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.

QUESTIONS/NEED ASSISTANCE: Please contact Kat Mullinax at (760) 932-7443.

SUBMIT: Please submit a complete application to your child's school or the District Office. You will be notified if your application is approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals.

Sincerely,

Kat Mullinax, Food Services Coordinator