



DR. JAMES R. HINES, JR., SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Houston County Schools offer healthy meals every school day. Breakfast cost \$1.50; lunch costs \$2.00 elementary, \$2.25 middle and high. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals. Reduced price is .30 for breakfast and .40 for lunch.

Frequently asked questions:

- 1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** Use one free and reduced priced school meals application for all students in your household. Return the completed application to your child's school or mail to: SNP, 1100 Main Street, Perry, GA 31069.
- 2. Who can get free meals?** All Children in households receiving SNAP or TANF can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the federal income guidelines.
- 3. Can foster children get free meals?** Yes foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income.
- 4. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Yes. Children who meet the definition of homeless runaway or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, Please call 478- 988-6200 to see if they qualify.
- 5. Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Illegibility Income Chart, shown on the application.
- 6. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free meals?** Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call 478-322-3308 if you have questions.
- 7. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another 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.
- 8. I get WIC, can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please complete the application.
- 9. Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
- 10. 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 reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 11. What if I disagree with the decision about my application?** You should talk to school officials or request a hearing. Call 478-322-3308.
- 12. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced-price meals.
- 13. Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household related or not, who share income and expenses. If you live with other people who are economically independent, do not include them.
- 14. What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally 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 not if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job, or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 15. We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income?** If you get an off-base housing allowance it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the military housing privatization initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- 16. My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is the combat pay counted as income?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to the basic pay, and was not received before deployment, it is not counted as income.
- 17. 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, contact your local assistance office or call 1-800-869-1150.

If you have other questions or need help, call 322-3308 ext 10304.
Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al telefono 322-3308 ext 10304.
Si vous voudriez d'aide, contactez nous au numero 322-3308 ext 10304.

Sincerely,

Dr. James R. Hines Jr., Superintendent
Houston County School System

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