

2021-2022 PUBLIC MEDIA RELEASE

Charleston County School District today announced its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following household size and income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household Size and Income Guidelines for Free Meals or Reduced-Price Meals Effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Income Eligibility Guidelines										
Effective from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022										
Household size	REDUCED PRICE MEALS – 185%					FREE MEALS – 130%				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly
1.....	23,828	1,986	993	917	459	16,744	1,396	698	644	322
2.....	32,227	2,686	1,343	1,240	620	22,646	1,888	944	871	436
3.....	40,626	3,386	1,693	1,563	782	28,548	2,379	1,190	1,098	549
4.....	49,025	4,086	2,043	1,886	943	34,450	2,871	1,436	1,325	663
5.....	57,424	4,786	2,393	2,209	1,105	40,352	3,363	1,682	1,552	776
6.....	65,823	5,486	2,743	2,532	1,266	46,254	3,855	1,928	1,779	890
7.....	74,222	6,186	3,093	2,855	1,428	52,156	4,347	2,174	2,006	1,003
8.....	82,621	6,886	3,443	3,178	1,589	58,058	4,839	2,420	2,233	1,117
For each additional family member, add	8,399	700	350	324	162	5,902	492	246	227	114

Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

For school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information on the application: (1) A SNAP or TANF case number certifying the household is currently eligible for either of these assistance programs and an adult household member signature or (2) names of all household members, the name and last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member signing the application form, current income by source for each household member and a signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct.

Foster children may also be eligible for these benefits regardless of household income. If a household has foster children living with them and the household has not previously been notified by the School District that their foster children have been directly certified for free meals, the household should include and count the foster children (including personal income earned by the foster children) on the household application form with other non-foster children.

Under the provisions of the policy Angela McLaughlin (*Reviewing Official's name*) will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the reviewing official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewer on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal may make a request either orally or in writing to Walter Campbell (*Hearing Official's Name*) whose address is: 3999 Bridge View Dr. North Charleston, SC 29405 for a hearing to appeal the decision. The hearing procedures are outlined in the policy.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if household size changes, the household should contact the school to file a meal application. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the office of the District Superintendent where any interested party may review it.

This release was sent to the following newspapers:

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Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; Fax: (202) 690-7442; Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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