



For Immediate Release

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### Arlington ISD offers free and reduced-price meals

ARLINGTON, Texas, July 23, 2014 – The Arlington Independent School District announced its policy today for providing free and reduced-price meals for qualifying students under the current income eligibility guidelines. Each school/site or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

On July 28, Arlington ISD Food & Nutrition Services will begin mailing letters to students' households about eligibility benefits and any actions that must be taken to apply for these benefits. Applications also are available beginning Aug. 4 at 1206 W. Arkansas Ln. or at [www.schoollunchapp.com](http://www.schoollunchapp.com).

### Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a student's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

#### *Income*

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels (see chart below)

#### *Categorical or Automatic Eligibility*

2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

#### *Program Participant*

3. Student's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant or displaced by a declared disaster
4. Student's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

## Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out the free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Food & Nutrition Services Offices located at 1206 W. Arkansas Ln., Arlington, Texas 76013. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

1. Names of all household members
2. Amount, frequency and source of current income for each household member
3. Last four digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a Social Security number, check the box for "I do not have a Social Security number"
4. Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

## Categorical or Program Eligibility

Arlington Independent School District Food & Nutrition Services is working with local agencies to identify all students who are categorically and program eligible. The Food & Nutrition Services Offices will notify the households of these students that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact the AISD Food & Nutrition Services compliance coordinator at 682-867-7895 or 682-867-7888.

### Income Eligibility Guidelines for Determining Free and Reduced Price Benefits

Effective from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Twice per Month		Every Two Weeks		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$15,171	\$21,590	\$1,265	\$1,800	\$633	\$900	\$584	\$831	\$292	\$416
2	\$20,449	\$29,101	\$1,705	\$2,426	\$853	\$1,213	\$787	\$1,120	\$394	\$560
3	\$25,727	\$36,612	\$2,144	\$3,051	\$1,072	\$1,526	\$990	\$1,409	\$495	\$705
4	\$31,005	\$44,123	\$2,584	\$3,677	\$1,292	\$1,839	\$1,193	\$1,698	\$597	\$849
5	\$36,283	\$51,634	\$3,024	\$4,303	\$1,512	\$2,152	\$1,396	\$1,986	\$698	\$993
6	\$41,561	\$59,145	\$3,464	\$4,929	\$1,732	\$2,465	\$1,599	\$2,275	\$800	\$1,138
7	\$46,839	\$66,656	\$3,904	\$5,555	\$1,952	\$2,778	\$1,802	\$2,564	\$901	\$1,282
8	\$52,117	\$74,167	\$4,344	\$6,181	\$2,172	\$3,091	\$2,005	\$2,853	\$1,003	\$1,427
9	\$57,395	\$81,678	\$4,784	\$6,807	\$2,392	\$3,404	\$2,208	\$3,142	\$1,105	\$1,572
10	\$62,673	\$89,189	\$5,224	\$7,433	\$2,612	\$3,717	\$2,411	\$3,431	\$1,207	\$1,717
11	\$67,951	\$96,700	\$5,664	\$8,059	\$2,832	\$4,030	\$2,614	\$3,720	\$1,309	\$1,862
12	\$73,229	\$104,211	\$6,104	\$8,685	\$3,052	\$4,343	\$2,817	\$4,009	\$1,411	\$2,007
For each additional family member add:										
	+ \$5,278	+ \$7,511	+ \$440	+ \$626	\$220	+ \$313	+ \$203	+ \$289	+ \$102	+ \$145

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact the compliance coordinator for AISD Food & Nutrition Services at 1206 W. Arkansas Ln. or 682-867-7888.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by school officials at any time during the school year.

### **Determining Eligibility**

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the Food & Nutrition Services compliance coordinator will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the reviewing official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to the AISD Food & Nutrition Services director.

### **Unexpected Circumstances**

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the students of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

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