

## News for Immediate Release

**May 3, 2016**

**Harrisburg** – The Pennsylvania Department of Education today announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently released federal income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced-price school meals and free milk for July 2016 – June 2017.

Schools and other institutions and facilities use the guidelines to determine eligibility for the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Special Milk Program for Children, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Summer Food Service Program.

“Food insecurity impacts communities across the commonwealth,” Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera said. “Without proper nutrition a student’s health, focus, and academic performance may decline. The free and reduced lunch, and other nutrition programs improve at-risk students’ access to healthy meals, and overall health and wellbeing.”

Households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) need only include the SNAP or TANF case number on their application. Households enrolled in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) also may qualify for free or reduced-price school meals and should complete a Household Meal Benefit Application.

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- (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) E-mail: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

For more information on school nutrition, visit [www.pde.state.pa.us](http://www.pde.state.pa.us), keyword “school nutrition.”

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The following annual income eligibility guidelines are effective July 1, 2016 until further notice:

<b><u>Family Size</u></b>	<b><u>Free Meals or Milk</u></b> (130% of Poverty Guidelines)	<b><u>Reduced Price Meals</u></b> (185% of Poverty Guidelines)	<b><u>Not Eligible</u></b>
One	\$0 to \$15,444	\$15,445 to \$21,978	\$21,979 and up
Two	\$0 to \$20,826	\$20,827 to \$29,637	\$29,638 and up
Three	\$0 to \$26,208	\$26,209 to \$37,296	\$37,297 and up
Four	\$0 to \$31,590	\$31,591 to \$44,955	\$44,956 and up
Five	\$0 to \$36,972	\$36,973 to \$52,614	\$52,615 and up
Six	\$0 to \$42,354	\$42,355 to \$60,273	\$60,274 and up
Seven	\$0 to \$47,749	\$47,750 to \$67,951	\$67,952 and up
Eight	\$0 to \$53,157	\$53,158 to \$75,647	\$75,648 and up
For Each Additional Family Member Add:	+\$5,408	+\$7,696	+\$7,697

SOURCE Pennsylvania Department of Education

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