



William S. Hart Union High School District

LETTER TO HOUSEHOLDS ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. The William S. Hart Union High School District offers healthy meals every school day. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Breakfast costs \$2.00; lunch costs \$3.25. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$0 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. To put money on your student's meal accounts visit www.myschoolbucks.com.

- DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household attending a WSHUHSD school. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. You can obtain an application online at www.hartdistrict.org/index.php/students/school-lunch-program, at the WSHUSD District Office at 21380 Centre Pointe Parkway, or at the office of your student's school. Return the completed application to: the main office of your student's school or William S. Hart UHSD Attn: Carolyn McMahon at 21380 Centre Pointe Pkwy, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. *If you have children attending Castaic Middle School or an elementary school within the SCV, you will need to contact Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency at 661-295-1574.*
- WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?** All children in households receiving benefits from CalFresh, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or CalWORKS 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 Eligibility Guidelines.
- 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.
- 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 contact your child's counselor or school homeless liaison to see if they qualify.
- 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 Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this application.
- 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. If you have questions, call the WSHUHSD at (661) 259-0033 x216.
- 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.
- 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 fill out an application.
- WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.
- 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.
- WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION?** You should talk to school officials. You may request a hearing by writing to Ralph Peschek, CFO, 21380 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 or call 661-259-0033 x271
- 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.
- WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
- 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 do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 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.
- MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS THEIR COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to their basic pay because of their deployment and it wasn't received before they were deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information. If you have other questions or need help, contact Carolyn McMahon at 661-259-0033 x216.

Your children may be eligible for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart:

Income Eligibility Guidelines July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020

Household Size	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$ 23,107	\$ 1,926	\$ 963	\$ 889	\$ 445
2	31,284	2,607	1,304	1,204	602
3	39,461	3,289	1,645	1,518	759
4	47,638	3,970	1,985	1,833	917
5	55,815	4,652	2,326	2,147	1,074
6	63,992	5,333	2,667	2,462	1,231
7	72,169	6,015	3,008	2,776	1,388
8	80,346	6,696	3,348	3,091	1,546
For each additional family member, add:					
	\$ 8,177	\$ 682	\$ 341	\$ 315	\$ 158

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application.

You are not required to provide the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced-price meals. If you are submitting an income-based application, 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 apply on behalf of a foster child; list a CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number for your child; or indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a Social Security number. We will use your household size and income information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, and for the administration of the lunch and breakfast programs.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on

race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities). To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (AD-3027), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office, call (866)87-8339 to request a form, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at USDA, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact the USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

The USDA, CDE and WSHUHSD are equal opportunity providers and employers.