

<p>2021-2022 MEDIA RELEASE FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS</p>	<p>Today, May 25, 2021 this public release will be sent to Albuquerque Journal</p> <hr/> <p>Posted on ABQ Sign Language Academy's Website</p>
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Albuquerque Sign Language Academy today announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the *National School Lunch Program*. The central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown here are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, or **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)** or **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Assistance**, benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside. Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the amount of the child's "personal use" income.

**INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
 FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE
 MEALS**

Effective from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES												
		Effective from					July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022					
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES	REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 185 %					FREE MEALS - 130 %					
	ANNUAL	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES												
1	12,880	23,828	1,986	993	917	459	16,744	1,396	698	644	322	
2	17,420	32,227	2,686	1,343	1,240	620	22,646	1,888	944	871	436	
3	21,960	40,626	3,386	1,693	1,563	782	28,548	2,379	1,190	1,098	549	
4	26,500	49,025	4,086	2,043	1,886	943	34,450	2,871	1,436	1,325	663	
5	31,040	57,424	4,786	2,393	2,209	1,105	40,352	3,363	1,682	1,552	776	
6	35,580	65,823	5,486	2,743	2,532	1,266	46,254	3,855	1,928	1,779	890	
7	40,120	74,222	6,186	3,093	2,855	1,428	52,156	4,347	2,174	2,006	1,003	
8	44,660	82,621	6,886	3,443	3,178	1,589	58,058	4,839	2,420	2,233	1,117	
For each add'l family member, add	4,540	8,399	700	350	324	162	5,902	492	246	227	114	
ALASKA												
1	16,090	29,767	2,481	1,241	1,145	573	20,917	1,744	872	805	403	
2	21,770	40,275	3,357	1,679	1,550	775	28,301	2,359	1,180	1,089	545	
3	27,450	50,783	4,232	2,116	1,954	977	35,685	2,974	1,487	1,373	687	
4	33,130	61,291	5,108	2,554	2,358	1,179	43,069	3,590	1,795	1,657	829	
5	38,810	71,799	5,984	2,992	2,762	1,381	50,453	4,205	2,103	1,941	971	
6	44,490	82,307	6,859	3,430	3,166	1,583	57,837	4,820	2,410	2,225	1,113	
7	50,170	92,815	7,735	3,868	3,570	1,785	65,221	5,436	2,718	2,509	1,255	
8	55,850	103,323	8,611	4,306	3,974	1,987	72,605	6,051	3,026	2,793	1,397	
For each add'l family member, add	5,680	10,508	876	438	405	203	7,384	616	308	284	142	
HAWAII												
1	14,820	27,417	2,285	1,143	1,055	528	19,266	1,606	803	741	371	
2	20,040	37,074	3,090	1,545	1,426	713	26,052	2,171	1,086	1,002	501	
3	25,260	46,731	3,895	1,948	1,798	899	32,838	2,737	1,369	1,263	632	
4	30,480	56,388	4,699	2,350	2,169	1,085	39,624	3,302	1,651	1,524	762	
5	35,700	66,045	5,504	2,752	2,541	1,271	46,410	3,868	1,934	1,785	893	
6	40,920	75,702	6,309	3,155	2,912	1,456	53,196	4,433	2,217	2,046	1,023	
7	46,140	85,359	7,114	3,557	3,284	1,642	59,982	4,999	2,500	2,307	1,154	
8	51,360	95,016	7,918	3,959	3,655	1,828	66,768	5,564	2,782	2,568	1,284	
For each add'l family member, add	5,220	9,657	805	403	372	186	6,786	566	283	261	131	

MEDIA RELEASE **FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS** *(Continued)*

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children. Applications are also available at the principal's office at the school. To apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, households must complete an application and return it to the school for processing. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: For households receiving SNAP, or FDPIR or TANF benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, SNAP, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member. For households who do not list a SNAP, or FDPIR or TANF case number, the application must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding Social Security number of an adult household member. If the household member who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate on the application that a Social Security number is not available.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the determining official(s), as designated by the sponsor/agency, shall review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with the sponsor/agency's hearing official. Parents or guardians should contact their child(ren)'s school(s) for specific information regarding the name of the determining official and/or hearing official for a specific school, agency, or district.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Households that receive SNAP, or FDPIR or TANF benefits may not have to complete an *Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals or Free Milk*. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from Human Services Department HSD or FDPIR office that a child is a member of a household currently receiving benefits. *School officials will notify households of their eligibility, but those who do not want their child(ren) to receive free meals must contact the school.* SNAP, FDPIR and TANF households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by Wednesday, September 1, 2021.