

MEDIA RELEASE

The St. Martin Parish School Board is participating in a meal service option called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) at eligible schools for SY 2022-23. Students enrolled in the schools listed below are eligible to receive a delicious breakfast and lunch meal at NO CHARGE to your household throughout the school year. The following schools qualify to participate for SY 2022-23:

BREAUX BRIDGE PRIMARY
BREAUX BRIDGE ELEMENTARY
BREAUX BRIDGE JUNIOR HIGH
EARLY LEARNING CENTER
ST. MARTINVILLE PRIMARY
ST. MARTINVILLE JUNIOR HIGH
ST. MARTINVILLE HIGH

The completion of a meal benefit application is not required for these schools and no further action is needed. For additional information, please visit our website at www.saintmartinschools.org. **Note:** If your child’s school is not listed above you will need to complete a lunch application for SY 2022-23 to apply for free or reduce meal benefits. Refer the information below.

St. Martin Parish School Board’s policy for free and reduced meals served under the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program(s) can be found on the District website and at the Central office, which may be reviewed by any interested party. Applications may be completed online at myschoolapps.com. The following family size and annual income criteria will be used for determining eligibility:

Effective July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Household Size	Total Income									
	Annual		Monthly		Twice-Monthly		Bi-Weekly		Weekly	
No. of Household Members	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$17,677	\$25,142	\$1,473	\$2,096	\$737	\$1,048	\$680	\$967	\$340	\$484
2	\$23,803	\$33,874	\$1,984	\$2,823	\$992	\$1,412	\$916	\$1,303	\$458	\$652
3	\$29,939	\$42,606	\$2,495	\$3,551	\$1,248	\$1,776	\$1,152	\$1,639	\$576	\$820
4	\$36,075	\$51,338	\$3,007	\$4,279	\$1,504	\$2,140	\$1,388	\$1,975	\$694	\$988
5	\$42,211	\$60,070	\$3,518	\$5,006	\$1,759	\$2,503	\$1,624	\$2,311	\$812	\$1,156
6	\$48,347	\$68,802	\$4,029	\$5,734	\$2,015	\$2,867	\$1,860	\$2,647	\$930	\$1,324
7	\$54,483	\$77,534	\$4,541	\$6,462	\$2,271	\$3,231	\$2,096	\$2,983	\$1,048	\$1,492
8	\$60,619	\$86,266	\$5,052	\$7,189	\$2,526	\$3,595	\$2,332	\$3,318	\$1,166	\$1,659
For each additional family member, add	+\$6,136	+\$8,732	+\$512	+\$728	+\$256	+\$364	+\$236	+\$336	+\$118	+\$168

These guidelines are based on 130% (free) and 185% (reduced) of the federal poverty guidelines.

Application forms and a letter to households are being sent to the following Non-CEP schools:

BREAUX BRIDGE HIGH
PARKS PRIMARY
PARKS MIDDLE
CECILIA PRIMARY

TECHE ELEMENTARY
CECILIA JUNIOR HIGH
CECILIA HIGH
STEPHENSVILLE ELEMENTARY

To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households should fill out one application for the household and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at each school. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. The information provided by the household is confidential; it will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Information may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

All children in households with any household member receiving benefits under Assistance Programs (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) or Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)) are eligible for free meals. For school officials to determine eligibility, each household that is now receiving benefits from Assistance Programs must provide the case number of a household member as well as the signature of an adult household member.

All other households must provide the following information on the application: names of all household members; the amount of income (before deductions for taxes, Social Security, etc.) each household member receives; how often the person receives the income; where it is from, such as wages, retirement, or welfare; the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct; and the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signed the application, or a statement that the household member does not possess one.

Children categorized as foster, homeless, runaway, migrant, or enrolled in state-funded Head Start or Even Start programs, **if known**, are automatically eligible for free meals. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from the program office and notify the household of their eligibility for benefits. The household must notify the school if it chooses to decline benefits. The household **should complete an application if they are not notified of free meal eligibility by: September 22, 2023.**

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact Lucretia Hertzock, School Nutrition Supervisor at Lucretia_hertzock@saintmartinschools.org. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for meal benefits.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price policy, Lucretia Hertzock and Reginald Hill (Determining Officials) will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent wishes to make a formal appeal, he may make either an oral or written response to the following: Pamela Jordan, Director of Federal Programs, P.O. Box 1000, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517 or pamela_jordan@saintmartinschools.org or (337) 332-2105.

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