Hampton Township School District

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn, Hampton Township School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs [\$1.25]; lunch costs [\$2.50/2.80]. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is [\$.30] for breakfast and [\$.40] for lunch. This packet includes an application for free and reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

If you have received a **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** letter for free meals, **do not** complete the application. But **do** let the school know if any children in your household are not listed on the **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** letter you received.

- 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS OR SPECIAL MILK?
 - All children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits are eligible for free meals.
 - Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
 - Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
 - Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
 - Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income
 Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or
 below the limits on this chart.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY REDUCED PRICE GUIDELINES JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024											
Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly						
1	\$26,973	\$2,248	\$1,124	\$1,038	\$519						
2	\$36,482	\$3,041	\$1,521	\$1,404	\$702						
3	\$45,991	\$3,833	\$1,917	\$1,769	\$885						
4	\$55,500	\$4,625	\$2,313	\$2,135	\$1,068						
5	\$65,009	\$5,418	\$2,709	\$2,501	\$1,251						
6	\$74,518	\$6,210	\$3,105	\$2,867	\$1,434						
7	\$84,027	\$7,003	\$3,502	\$3,232	\$1,616						
8	\$93,536	\$7,795	\$3,898	\$3,598	\$1,799						
Each additional family member add:	+\$9,509	+\$793	+\$397	+\$366	+\$183						

- 2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, call or email [Hampton Township School District, homeless liaison, or migrant coordinator].
- 3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. You may request a paper application from the school at any time. Return the completed application to: Lisa Easley, 4591 School Drive Allison Park, PA 15101, 412-492-6313.
- 4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but read the letter you received carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification letter, contact **Lisa Easley, 4591 School Drive Allison Park, PA 15101, 412-492-6313** immediately.
- 5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit the PA Department of Human Services website at www.compass.state.pa.us.
- 6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first 30 operating school 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.
- 7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC <u>may</u> be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Send in an application.

- 8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
- 9. 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/or reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Jeff Kline**, **4591 School Drive Allison Park**, **PA 15101**, **412-492-6307**.
- 11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
- 12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you <u>normally</u> 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.
- 13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will <u>also</u> be counted as zeroes. Be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you <u>meant</u> to do so.
- 14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
- 15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application. Contact **Lisa Easley, 4591 School Drive Allison Park, PA 15101, 412-492-6313**.to receive a second application.
- 16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, visit www.compass.state.pa.us, contact your local county assistance office, or call 1-800-692-7462.

If you have other questions or need help, call 412-492-6313

Sincerely,

Lisa Easley

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail**:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. **fax**:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. **email:**

Program.Intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

ATTENTION: If you speak Spanish, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Contact your child's school. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Comuníquese con la escuela de su niño.

Pennsylvania Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

APPLY ONLINE:

RETURN TO (School/District Name): Lisa Easley -Administration building

ADDRESS: 4591 School Drive Allison Park, PA 15101

STEP 1 List ALL children, infants, and students up to	and including	grade 1	2. Attach a	nother sh	eet of pa	per if yo	u need space fo	r more na	mes.							
List ALL children in the household. Do not forget to list in	fants, children a	ttending	g other sch	ools, childr	en not in	school, a	nd children not a	pplying fo	r benef	ts. This include	children no	ot related to you	in your h	ousehold.		
Child's First Name	1	мі с	Child's Last	Name				Grade	_	Foster Child	Migrant	Runaway	, Но	omeless		
															,	hecked
									Check all that apply						any of boxes,	
									that						refer to	
									k all						Applica Instruc	
									Chec						Step 1: & Part	
STEP 2 Do any household members (including you)	narticinate in:	SNAP T	ANE or ED	PIR?												
<u> </u>	Write case numb				1.	CASE	NUMBER (NOT EE	ST NUMBER	3):			Write only one	case num	ber in this s	pace.	
									,							
A. All Adult Household Members (Anyone who is livin List all Adult Household Members not listed in STEP deductions) for each source in whole dollars (no cer	ng with you and 1 (including yo	shares urself)	income ar	nd expense y do not re	es, even i	come. Fo	each Househole '0'. If you enter	d Membe		•	u are certif	ying (promising)				eport.
			Ho	w often receiv	ved?		Public Assistance,		How oft	en received?		ions, Retirement, al Security, SSI,		How ofte	n received?	
Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	2x Month	Monthly	Annual	Child Support, Alimony	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks		VA B	enefits, All Other ne	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	2x Month	Monthly
, , ,	\$	0	0	0	0	0	\$	0	0	0 (5		0	0	0	0
	\$	0	0	0	0	0	\$	0	0	0 (5		0	0	0	0
	\$	0	0	0	0	0	\$	0	0	0 (\$		0	0	0	0
	\$	0	0	0	0	0	\$	0	0	0 (5		0	0	0	0
	\$	0	0	0	0	0	\$	0	0	0 (5		0	0	0	0
Total Household Members (Children and Adults) Last Four Numbers of Social Security Number of Primary Wage Earner or other Adult Household Member (If Applicable)							Check if no Social Security Number ☐ Please see application's back for list of income sources.						ck			
B. Child Income								Wee		How often rece very 2X Month	ived? Monthly	Annual				
Sometimes children in the household earn or receive inc Include the TOTAL income (before taxes and deductions)		. childrei	n listed in S	TEP 1 here.		\$	Child Income	С		Veeks O	0	0				
STEP 4 Contact information and adult signature.	RETURN COM	PLETED	FORM TO	YOUR CHI	LD'S SCH	IOOL:	Insert sch	ool addre	ss here							
"I certify (promise) that all information on this applicat (confirm) the information. I am aware that if I purpose				•				_			•	•	d that sch	nool offici	als may ve	rify
Print Name of Adult Signing the Form	Signature of Adult					Today's Date										
Mailing Address (if available) City		State	e			Zip			Pho	one (optional)		Em	ail (option	al)		

SOURCES AND EXAMPLES OF INCOME For additional information on income, please refer to the instructions that accompany this application. **Examples of Income for Children** Sources of Income Earnings from Work Public Assistance/Alimony/ Pensions/Retirement/ Child Support All other sources of income A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages · Unemployment benefits Social Security/Disability (including railroad · Salary, wages, cash bonuses, tips, commissions retirement and black lung benefits) Workers' compensation · Net income from self-employment (farm or A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits Supplemental Security Income (SSI) · Private Pensions or disability benefits business) A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits · Cash assistance from State or local · Income from trusts or estates If you are in the U.S. Military: Annuities government · Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money Alimony payments · Investment income combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing · Child support payments · Earned interest allowances) · Veterans' benefits Rental income A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust Allowances for off-base housing, food, Strike benefits Regular cash payments from outside household and clothing OPTIONAL Children's ethnic and racial identities. This information is kept confidential and may be protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race) ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Black or African American ☐ White ☐ Asian ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax, or email completed applications to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. DO NOT FILL OUT For school use only. Annual Income Conversion: Weekly × 52, Every 2 Weeks × 26, Twice a Month × 24, Monthly × 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed. Eligibility How often? Total Income Household size Categorical Eligibility Free Reduced Denied 2x Month Weekly Monthly Annual

Confirming Official's Signature

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met.

Determining Official's Signature Date

Use of Information Statement

Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, 'Check if no Social Security Number'. Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security

Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.

Return completed form to your child's school.

The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

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* MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Date

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

FAX. (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or EMAIL: Program.Intake@usda.gov

Verifying Official's Signature

* Do not mail applications to this address, only complaints of discrimination.

Date

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.