

Media Release for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Cedar Hill ISD announced its policy today for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the attached current income eligibility guidelines. Each school/site or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

Starting in *August 2023*, *Cedar Hill ISD* will begin distributing letters to the households of the children in the district about eligibility benefits and any actions households need to take to apply for these benefits. Applications also are available at *202 East Beltline Road, Cedar Hill Texas 75104* and participating *CHISD* campuses.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

Income

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical or Automatic Eligibility

2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Program Participant

3. Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster
4. Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to *Beth Gressett, 202 E. Beltline Road, Cedar Hill, Texas 75104, 972.291.1581 x4095*. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

1. Names of all household members
2. Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
3. Last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for "No Social Security number"
4. Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Eligibility

Cedar Hill ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. *Cedar Hill ISD* will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact *Beth Gressett, CN Coordinator, beth.gressett@chisd.net, 972.291.1581 x4095*.

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact *Beth Gressett, CN Coordinator, beth.gressett@chisd.net, 972.291.1581 x4095*.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

Determining Eligibility

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, *Beth Gressett, CN Coordinator* will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to *Cedar Hill ISD CFO, 972.291.1581*.

Unexpected Circumstances

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 attached current income eligibility guidelines.

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/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.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; (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2023-2024 Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals
 Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

Return to:
 or Apply Online:

CEDAR HILL ISD
 202 East Beltline Rd, Cedar Hill, TX 75104
www.chisd.net

STEP 1 List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12

If more spaces are needed, use the Additional Names section on the back.

Definition of Household Member:
 "Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related."

Children in **Foster Care, Head Start**, and children who meet the definition of **Homeless, Migrant, or Runaway** are eligible for free meals. Read the directions for more information.

Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student?	Grade	Head Start	Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway
			Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Check any that apply

STEP 2 Do any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR?

If NO → Go to STEP 3 If YES → Write the Eligibility Determination Group (EDG, n/a for FDIPIR) number here, then go to STEP 4 (do not complete STEP 3):

EDG Number

STEP 3 Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'YES' to STEP 2)

A. Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of an Adult Household Member XXX- XX- Check if no SSN

B. Income for Adult Household Members (Including yourself)

List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income (before taxes) for each source in whole dollars (no cents) only. Report the frequency by income type: W=Weekly, E=Every 2 Weeks, T=Twice per Month, M=Monthly, A=Annually. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If more spaces are needed, use the Additional Names section on the back.

Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last)	Work Earnings				Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony				Pensions/Retirement/ Social Security/SSI/ VA Benefits/All Other				Frequency			
	W	E	T	M	A	W	E	T	M	A	W	E	T	M	A	
\$	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					
\$	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					
\$	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					
\$	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					

C. Income for Children in the Household

Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by all Child Household Members listed in STEP 1 here. If applicable, include income from additional children listed on back. Income frequency conversion key provided on back.

Total Child Income \$

Frequency: W E T M A

D. Total Household Members
 (Children & Adults)

STEP 4 Contact information and adult signature.

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Street address (if available) Apt # City State Zip code Daytime phone and email (optional)

Printed name of adult signing the form

Signature of adult

Today's date

ADDITIONAL NAMES

List any additional child household members not listed in STEP 1.

Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student?	Grade	Head Start	Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

List any additional **adult** household members not listed in STEP 3. Report the frequency by income type: W=Weekly, E=Every 2 Weeks, T=Twice per Month, M=Monthly, A=Annually

Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last)	Work Earnings	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency				Pensions/Retirement/ Social Security/SSI/ VA Benefits/All Other	Frequency											
			W	E	T	M		A	W	E	T	M	A						
<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. 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 is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDP/IR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

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> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DO NOT COMPLETE. This section for school use only.

Annual Income Conversion: weekly x 52, every two weeks x 26, twice a month x 24, monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.

Household Size	Total Income	Frequency	Eligibility
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	W <input type="radio"/> E <input type="radio"/> T <input type="radio"/> M <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/>	Free <input type="radio"/> Reduced <input type="radio"/> Denied <input type="radio"/>
Categorical Determination		Reviewing/Determining Official's Signature	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
		Confirming Official's Signature	Date
		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Date Received	Date Withdrawn
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Determining Free and Reduced-Price Benefits

Effective from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Twice per Month		Every Two Weeks		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$18,954	\$26,973	\$1,580	\$2,248	\$790	\$1,124	\$729	\$1,038	\$365	\$519
2	\$25,636	\$36,482	\$2,137	\$3,041	\$1,069	\$1,521	\$986	\$1,404	\$493	\$702
3	\$32,318	\$45,991	\$2,694	\$3,833	\$1,347	\$1,917	\$1,243	\$1,769	\$622	\$885
4	\$39,000	\$55,500	\$3,250	\$4,625	\$1,625	\$2,313	\$1,500	\$2,135	\$750	\$1,068
5	\$45,682	\$65,009	\$3,807	\$5,418	\$1,904	\$2,709	\$1,757	\$2,501	\$879	\$1,251
6	\$52,364	\$74,518	\$4,364	\$6,210	\$2,182	\$3,105	\$2,014	\$2,867	\$1,007	\$1,434
7	\$59,046	\$84,027	\$4,921	\$7,003	\$2,461	\$3,502	\$2,271	\$3,232	\$1,136	\$1,616
8	\$65,728	\$93,536	\$5,478	\$7,795	\$2,739	\$3,898	\$2,528	\$3,598	\$1,264	\$1,799
For each additional family member add:										
	\$6,682	\$9,509	\$557	\$793	\$279	\$397	\$257	\$366	\$129	\$183