State of New Jersey
Department of Education
Atlantic County Office
6260 Old Harding Highway
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
Phone (609) 625-0004
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www.aclink.org/education

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

KEVIN DEHMER
Commissioner

LESLIE WHITE-COURSEY
Interim Executive County Superintendent

TO: Education Editor

FROM: Leslie White-Coursey, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: County Public Announcement for School Nutrition Programs-School Year 2025-2026

DATE: July 3, 2025

The attached News Release is regarding Free and Reduced-Price Meals which are available to all eligible children in the Atlantic County School Districts for the 2025-2026 school year. School districts are required to submit this announcement to a local newspaper, to coordinate efforts among all Atlantic County public school districts, I am circulating this information with a list of participants.

It would be appreciated if you would publish this information at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions, or if further information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact Julieta Moya in my office at 609-625-0004.

Thank you.

c: Arleen Ramos-Szatmary, Coordinator School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Food and Nutrition

LWC/LC/jm

Enclosure

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SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026 PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Interim Executive County Superintendent announced today that low-cost, nutritious school lunches and/or breakfasts and/or milk are available to all children enrolled in the school. Meals, snacks and/or milk will be provided free or at a reduced price to children living in households whose gross incomes are at or below those shown for their household size on the income scale below. The School Meal Benefits and Summer EBT Application is available to the households of all children enrolled in the school.

EFFECTIVE FROM JULY 1, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2026

(As announced by the United States Department of Agriculture)

FREE MEALS OR MILK						REDUCED PRICE MEALS					
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
- 1 -	20,345	1,696	848	793	392	- 1 -	28,953	2,413	1,207	1,114	557
- 2 -	27,495	2,292	1,146	1,058	529	- 2 -	39,128	3,261	1,631	1,505	753
- 3 -	34,645	2,888	1,444	1,333	667	- 3 -	49,303	4,109	2,055	1,897	949
- 4 -	41,795	3,483	1,742	1,608	804	- 4 -	59,478	4,957	2,479	2,288	1,144
- 5 -	48,945	4,079	2,040	1,883	942	- 5 -	69,653	5,805	2,903	2,679	1,340
- 6 -	56,095	4,675	2,338	2,158	1,079	- 6 -	79,828	6,653	3,327	3,071	1,536
- 7 -	63,245	5,271	2,636	2,433	1,217	- 7 -	90,003	7,501	3,751	3,462	1,731
- 8 -	70,395	5,867	2,934	2,708	1,354	- 8 -	100,178	8,349	4,175	3,853	1,927
Each add'l household member add	7,150	596	298	275	138	Each add'l household member add	10,175	848	424	392	196

Application forms are available on the school's website and at your child's school. Applications can be submitted at any time during the school year. If a household member becomes unemployed or the household size or income changes during the school year, parents are encouraged to contact the school so that all children receive the proper benefits. For the school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information listed on the application: names of all household members; household income received by each household member; type of income; frequency of income such as weekly, every two weeks, twice a month or monthly; and the signature and last four digits of the social security number of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct. The information provided by parents on the application will be kept confidential and will be used only for determining eligibility.

Foster children, Head Start enrollees, homeless, migrant and runaway children, as defined in 7 CFR 245.2, are categorically eligible for free meals or free milk. Households receiving assistance under NJ SNAP, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Medicaid for their children will be notified of their eligibility for free benefits unless the household notifies the school that it chooses to decline benefits. Households receiving assistance under NJ SNAP or TANF should only submit an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by a specified date determined by the school. Households with children that are certified participants in SNAP or TANF may submit school meal applications for their children using the abbreviated information as indicated on the school meal application and instructions. WIC participants may also be eligible for free and reduced price meals. Parents/guardians should contact their child's school for more information.

The school will advise parents of their child's eligibility within 10 working days of receipt of the application. Any parent dissatisfied with the eligibility determination may contact the school to request an informal conference or may appeal the decision by requesting a formal hearing.

For up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first) an individual child who was determined as free or reduced price eligible during the previous year will continue with this determination. When children move to a new LEA, either at the beginning of the new school year or during the summer months, the new LEA is encouraged to use the former LEA's eligibility determination from the previous school year and carryover the child's eligibility status. Once determinations are completed, school officials are required to verify three percent of the approved School Meals and Summer EBT Applications on file. For additional information, contact your child's school.

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.

The following school districts and charter schools participate in these programs:

NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTICIPATING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, AFTER-SCHOOL SNACK PROGRAM, SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM, OR SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM INCLUDING SPLIT-SESSION KINDERGARTEN MILK
DISTRICT/CHARTER SCHOOL
Absecon
Atlantic City
Atlantic County Special Services
Atlantic County Vocational-Technical School
Brigantine
Buena Regional
Egg Harbor City
Egg Harbor Township
Estell Manor
Folsom
Galloway Township
Greater Egg Harbor Regional
Hamilton Township
Hammonton
Linwood
Mainland Regional
Margate
Mullica Township
Northfield
Pleasantville
Somers Point
Ventnor
Weymouth Township
Atlantic Community Charter School
ChARTer~TECH High School
Principle Academy Charter