

Hillsdale Local Schools' Media Release for Free/Reduced Meals and Civil Rights

Hillsdale Local Schools announced today its policy to serve nutritious meals every school day under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and/or Afterschool Snack Program. Effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines.

At the start of each school year, Hillsdale Local Schools will make available free/reduced applications in addition to applications through PaySchoolsCentral.com.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits to Start School Year 2025-2026

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits at the beginning of School Year 2025-2026:

Income

- Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical or Automatic Eligibility

- Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Program Participant

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

Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must complete the free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Jody Raubenolt, Food Service Supervisor at jraubenolt@hillsdalelocalschools.org.

Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

- Names of all household members
- Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
- 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"
- Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Eligibility

Hillsdale Local Schools is working with ODDEX to identify all children who are categorically and program-eligible.

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Jody Raubenolt, Food Service Supervisor at jraubenolt@hillsdalelocalschools.org.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine 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, Jody Raubenolt, Food Service Supervisor, will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Determining Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Determining 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 Jody Raubenolt, Food Service Supervisor, at jraubenolt@hillsdalelocalschools.org.

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 current income eligibility guidelines below.

Household Size	Free					Reduced				
	# of Members	Annual	Monthly	2 x per month	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	2 x per month	Every 2 Weeks
1	\$20,345	1,696	848	783	392	\$28,953	2,413	1,207	1,114	557
2	\$27,495	2,292	1,146	1,058	529	\$39,128	3,261	1,631	1,505	753
3	\$34,645	2,888	1,444	1,333	667	\$49,303	4,109	2,055	1,897	949
4	\$41,795	3,483	1,742	1,608	804	\$59,478	4,957	2,479	2,288	1,144
5	\$48,945	4,079	2,040	1,883	942	\$69,653	5,805	2,903	2,679	1,340
6	\$56,095	4,675	2,338	2,158	1,079	\$79,828	6,653	3,327	3,071	1,536
7	\$63,245	5,271	2,636	2,433	1,217	\$90,003	7,501	3,751	3,462	1,731
8	\$70,395	5,867	2,934	2,708	1,354	\$100,178	8,349	4,175	3,853	1,927
Add. Member Add	\$7,150	596	298	275	138	\$10,175	848	424	392	196

Income Conversions:

Weekly Income x 52 = Annual Income

Every 2 Weeks Income (Every other Week, Bi-Weekly) X 26 = Annual Income

Twice a Month Income (Bi-Monthly) x 24 = Annual Income

1 | Income Eligibility Guidelines | 2025-2026 | USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

For Additional Information, please contact:

Hillsdale Local Schools

Attention: Jody Raubenolt

Food Service Supervisor

479 Twp Rd 1902 Jeromesville, Ohio 44840

jraubenolt@hillsdalelocalschools.org or 419-368-8520

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