Media Release: Application Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Nazareth 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 on *July 13, 2026* will begin distributing letters to the households of the children in the district. Applications will be sent home with students registering July 30, 2026 and on the first day of school on August 12. Applications also are available at 101 S. 1st Street and to view at https://www.nazarethisd.net/link-three/cafeteria-menus-freereduced-application

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 (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 complete an application for free and reduced-price meals and return it to *{insert name, title, and contact information}*. 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

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Determining Free and Reduced-Price Benefits

Effective from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027

Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Twice per Month		Every Two Weeks		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	$20,748	$29,526	$1,729	$2,461	$865	$1,231	$798	$1,136	$399	$568
2	$28,132	$40,034	$2,345	$3,337	$1,173	$1,669	$1,082	$1,540	$541	$770
3	$35,516	$50,542	$2,960	$4,212	$1,480	$2,106	$1,366	$1,944	$683	$972
4	$42,900	$61,050	$3,575	$5,088	$1,788	$2,544	$1,650	$2,349	$825	$1,175
5	$50,284	$71,558	$4,191	$5,964	$2,096	$2,982	$1,934	$2,753	$967	$1,377
6	$57,668	$82,066	$4,806	$6,839	$2,403	$3,420	$2,218	$3,157	$1,109	$1,579
7	$65,052	$92,574	$5,421	$7,715	$2,711	$3,858	$2,502	$3,561	$1,251	$1,781
8	$72,436	$103,082	$6,037	$8,591	$3,019	$4,296	$2,786	$3,965	$1,393	$1,983
For each additional family member, add										
	$7,384	$10,508	$616	$876	$308	$438	$284	$405	$142	$203

Categorical or Program Eligibility

Nazareth ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligibleNazareth 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 *Dr. Kara Sue Garlitz at kara.garlitz@nazarethisd.net*. Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Dr. Kara Sue Garlitz, superintendent, kara.garlitz@nazarethisd.net.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information provided by households 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, *{insert title and name of reviewing official}* 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 *{insert name of hearing official, title, and contact information}*.

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.

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