Free and Reduced-Price Meals for SMMUSD Students

Notification: School Year 2026-27

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District announces 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, 2026 through June 30, 2027, children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines.

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Household Size	Free – Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast					Reduced-Price – Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast				
	Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	$20,748	$1,729	$865	$798	$399	$29,526	$2,461	$1,231	$1,136	$568
2	28,132	2,345	1,173	1,082	541	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770
3	35,516	2,960	1,480	1,366	683	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972
4	42,900	3,575	1,788	1,650	825	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175
5	50,284	4,191	2,096	1,934	967	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377
6	57,668	4,806	2,406	2,218	1,109	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579
7	65,052	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781
8	72,436	6,037	3,019	2,786	1,393	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983
For each additional family member, add:	$7,384	$616	$308	$284	$142	$10,508	$876	$438	$405	$203

Households do not need to turn in an application when the household receives a notification letter saying that all children automatically qualify for free meals when any household member receives benefits from CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR. Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway, and children enrolled in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals. Contact school officials if any child in the household is not on the notification letter. The household must let school officials know if they do not want to receive free or reduced-price meals.

Applications will be sent to the household with a letter about the free and reduced-price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits must fill out one application for all children in the household and give it to the Food & Nutrition Services office at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404. For a simple and secure method to apply, use our online application at http://www.myschoolapps.com/. Contact Food & Nutrition Services at 310-450-8338, ext. 70228 for help filling out the application. The school will let you know if your application is approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals.

Households may turn in an application at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now, but your household income goes down, household size goes up, or a household member starts receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR, you may turn in an application at that time. Information given on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school officials. The last four digits of the Social Security number from any adult household member, or checking that you do not have a Social Security number, is required if you include income on the application.

Households that receive Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefits, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals by filling out an application.

Foster children are eligible for free meals and may be included as a household member if the foster family chooses to also apply for the non-foster children on the same application. Including foster children as a household member may help the non-foster children qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If the non-foster children are not eligible, this does not keep

foster children from receiving free meals.

Your child's eligibility status from last school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 school days or until the school processes your new application or your child is otherwise certified for free or reduced-price meals. After the 30 school days, your child will have to pay full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials do not have to send reminders or expired eligibility notices.

If you do not agree with the decision or results of verification, you may discuss it with school officials. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by calling or writing the hearing official: Richard Marchini, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401, 310-450-8338, ext. 342.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.