Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

Department of Food Services
14126 W. South Street
Woodstock, IL 60098

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Amy Kroyer
Director of Food Services
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Woodstock Community Unit School District is pleased to offer a breakfast and lunch program at each of our school sites. We believe that good nutrition is a key component in the learning process.

We are pleased to announce that we are once again offering the option of *ONLINE APPLICATIONS* to all families. This will help us process applications faster, getting the benefits to your students quicker. Go to the link on our website at https://www.woodstockschools.org/departments/food-services; we are planning to go live on July 21st. Paper applications will still be available at the Food Services Office located at 14126 W. South Street (just west of Westwood Elementary School) beginning on July 31st. Only paper applications with "School Year 2026-2027" at the top will be accepted.

For the **2026-2027** school year the cost for a school breakfast is $2.85, the cost for elementary school lunch is $3.75, and the cost for a middle/high school lunch is $3.85. The reduced price is $.30 for a school breakfast and $.40 for a school lunch.

Free or reduced meals may be available to your family if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

Income Eligibility Guidelines (Effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)

185% Federal Poverty Guideline

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	29,526	2,461	1,231	1,136	568
2	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770
3	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972
4	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175
5	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377
6	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579
7	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781
8	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983
For each additional household member, add:	10,508	876	438	405	203

We have also included a list of frequently asked questions regarding the free/reduced lunch program, which may be of help to you.

1. **DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced-price meals. Use one Household Eligibility Application for all students in your household per district. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. To process your application prior to the first day of school, please complete the online application or return the completed paper application as soon as possible to: **Woodstock CUSD Food Services, 14126 W. South Street, Woodstock, IL 60098**.

2. **WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?** All children in households receiving benefits from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), households receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and/or

individual foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals, regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant also qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your child will get free meals, please contact your school to see if your child(ren) qualifies.

3. **WHO CAN GET REDUCED-PRICE MEALS?** Your children can get low-cost meals if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines chart, shown above.

4. **A MEMBER OF MY HOUSEHOLD RECEIVED SNAP OR TANF BENEFITS. THE SCHOOL SENT A LETTER STATING THAT MY CHILD IS AUTOMATICALLY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS BASED ON DIRECT CERTIFICATION. DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING MORE TO ENSURE THAT MY CHILD RECEIVES FREE MEALS?** No. You do not need to do anything more to receive free meals for your child. If you have students not listed on the letter, contact the school immediately. If you do not wish to receive the free meals, you should follow the steps outlined in the letter from the school to notify school personnel immediately.

5. **HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY?** Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please contact your school.

6. **MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE?** Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school has already told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

7. **I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please fill out the application for free or reduced priced meals.

8. **WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof.

9. **IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

10. **WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION?** You should talk to school officials. You may also ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Mr. Brian McAdow, Associate Superintendent, 2990 Raffel Road, Woodstock, IL 60098, (815) 338-8200.

11. **MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

12. **WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.

13. **WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME?** List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make $1,000 each month but you missed some work last month and only made $900,

put down that you made $1,000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime occasionally. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

14. **WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT?** Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. If this is the case, write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zero. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

15. **WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY?** Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.

16. **MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?** To find out how to apply for SNAP, TANF, or other assistance benefits, contact your local Department of Human Services office or call (800) 843-6154 (voice) or (800) 447-6404 (TTY).

If you have other questions or need help, call the Food Services Department at (815) 338-8166.

Sincerely,

Amy Kroyer
Director of Food Services