

On July 7th 2022 this release was sent to [The Brentwood Press & Publishing Corporation at 248 Oak St. Brentwood, Ca. 94513. \[www.thepress.net\]\(http://www.thepress.net\)](#) . Editor Contact: Tim Epperson • editor@brentwoodpress.com • (925) 634-1441 ext. 110

Kristin Nisen R.D.
Signature

7/7/2022

Food Service Coordinator
Title

School Year **2022-2023** Public Media Release for Free School Meals

Brentwood, Liberty, Byron, Oakley & Knightsen School Districts is announcing its policy for providing free meals for children served under the USDA National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. The CA Universal Meal program is allowing free meals (one lunch, one breakfast per school day) for all students for the 2022/2023 school year despite eligibility. The School districts need to continue to collect Free/Reduced Priced Meal Applications to ensure sustainability of the CA Universal Free Meals Supplemental Program. Each school and/or the district/agency's central office have a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party on request.

Meal applications will be sent to all households with a letter informing parents or guardians of the availability of free and reduced-price meals. To apply, complete one application for all children in the household and submit to the school for processing. Additional copies are available at the school or district office or you may apply online. Check with your school district website for meal application. Households may submit an Application at any time during the school year. Information provided on the Application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school officials.

Children are eligible for USDA funded free or reduced-price meals if their household income is less than or equal to the Income Eligibility Guidelines identified below, which will be used to determine eligibility for meal benefits. These guidelines are effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Note-all CA students will receive a free lunch/breakfast regardless of USDA program eligibility.

These guidelines are effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Household Size	Free Eligibility Scale for Breakfast, Lunch, and Milk					Reduced-price Eligibility Scale for Breakfast and Lunch				
	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$17,667	\$1,473	\$737	\$680	\$340	\$25,142	\$2,096	\$1,048	\$967	\$484
2	\$23,803	\$1,984	\$992	\$916	\$458	\$33,874	\$2,823	\$1,412	\$1,303	\$652
3	\$29,939	\$2,495	\$1,248	\$1,152	\$576	\$42,606	\$3,551	\$1,776	\$1,639	\$820
4	\$36,075	\$3,007	\$1,504	\$1,388	\$694	\$51,338	\$4,279	\$2,140	\$1,975	\$988
5	\$42,211	\$3,518	\$1,759	\$1,624	\$812	\$60,070	\$5,006	\$2,503	\$2,311	\$1,156
6	\$48,347	\$4,029	\$2,015	\$1,886	\$930	\$68,802	\$5,734	\$2,867	\$2,647	\$1,324
7	\$54,483	\$4,541	\$2,271	\$2,096	\$1,048	\$77,534	\$6,462	\$3,231	\$2,983	\$1,492
8	\$60,619	\$5,052	\$2,526	\$232	\$1,166	\$86,266	\$7,189	\$3,595	\$3,318	\$1,659
For each additional family member add	\$6,136	\$512	\$256	\$236	\$118	\$8,732	\$728	\$364	\$336	\$168

Brentwood, Liberty, Byron, Oakley & Knightsen School Districts will notify the household of their children's eligibility for free meals if any household member receives CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), or Food Distribution Program Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits. Households will also be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals if the individual child is categorized as foster, homeless, migrant, runaway, enrolled in an eligible Head Start, or enrolled in an eligible pre-kindergarten class. An Application is not required if a household receives the eligibility notice from school officials. Households should contact the school immediately regarding any child in the household not included on the eligibility notice. The household must notify school officials if they choose to decline meal benefits.

Households that did not receive the eligibility notice from school officials and would like to apply for meal benefits must submit a complete free and reduced-price application for their school district to determine a child's eligibility.

Households receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits must include the following on their meal application:

1. Names of all enrolled children
2. One case number from any household member
3. Signature of an adult household member

Households with foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway children must include:

1. Names of all enrolled children
2. Indication of individual child's categorical eligibility status
3. Signature of an adult household member

Households who may qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income must include:

1. Names of all household members (children and adults)
2. Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
3. The last 4 digits of the Social Security number (SSN) of the adult household member who signs the application or check the box if the adult does not have a SSN
4. Signature of an adult household member

Foster children are eligible for free meals and may be included as a household member of a foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for the non-foster children. Including foster children as a household member may help the non-foster children in the household qualify for free or reduced-price meal benefits. If the foster family is not eligible for meal benefits, this does not prevent foster children from receiving free meal benefits.

Children in households participating in Women, Infants and Children (WIC) **may** be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Contact school officials for further information or complete an application for processing.

Under the provisions of Brentwood, Liberty, Byron, Oakley & Knightsen School Districts Free and Reduced-Price Meal Policy Statement, the designated determining official(s) will review meal Applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility determination may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents or guardians may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with their school district. Contact the schools districts hearing official for information regarding the hearing procedures.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above.

For up to 30 operating days into the new school year, eligibility from the previous school year will continue within the same school/agency. When the carry-over period ends, unless the household is notified that their children are directly certified or the household submits an application that is approved, the children must pay full price for school meals and the school will not send a reminder or a notice of expired eligibility.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT- In accordance with Federal 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), age, disability, and 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 for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, and 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 www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-programdiscrimination-complaint-form.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 Ave SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov.
This institution is an equal opportunity provide