

Dear Parent/Guardian:

RSU 26 offers a choice of healthy meals each school day. Children may buy lunch for \$2.50 at ASA C. Adams, \$2.75 at Orono Middle and High School and breakfast for \$1.45 in all schools. Children who qualify under U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines may get meals free or a reduced price of \$0.40 for lunch and breakfast for free. All meals served must meet nutrition standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If a child has a disability, as determined by a doctor, and the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal, the school will make substitutions prescribed by a doctor. If a substitution is needed, there will be no extra charge for the meal. Please note, however, that the school is not required to make a substitution for a food allergy, unless it meets the definition of disability. Please call the school for further information.

Your child can get free school meals if you get SNAP, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or benefits from the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). If your total household income is the same or below the amount on the Income Chart, your child can get meals either free or at a reduced price.

How do I get free or reduced price school meals for my child? You must complete the Free and Reduced Price School Meal Application and return it to the school.

- **Households getting SNAP, TANF, or benefits from FDPIR.** You only have to include your child's name and case number, and an adult household member must sign the form.
- **Households that do not get SNAP, TANF, or benefits from FDPIR.** If you do not have a case number, you must include the names of all household members, the amount of income each person got last month and where the income came from. An adult household member must sign the form and include the last four digits of his/her social security number, or indicate that he or she has none.
- **Households with a foster child.** You only have to include the child's name and check the box indicating that the child is a Foster Child on the Meal Application, and an adult must sign the form.

| School Year 2019 Income Guidelines For Reduced Price Meals | |
|---|---------|
| REDUCED INCOME | |
| Household Size | Monthly |
| 1 | 1,872 |
| 2 | 2,538 |
| 3 | 3,204 |
| 4 | 3,870 |
| 5 | 4,536 |
| 6 | 5,202 |
| 7 | 5,868 |
| 8 | 6,534 |
| For each additional family member add: | |
| | 666 |

Will the form be verified? Your eligibility may be checked at any time during the school year. School officials may ask you to send written evidence that shows your child should get free or reduced price school meals.

Can I appeal the school's decision? You can talk to school officials if you do not agree with the school's decision on your form. You also may ask for a fair hearing by calling or writing to:

Lynn Gray- Business Manager

Phone: 866-7110, 10 Goodridge Drive Orono ME 04473

Will information on my form be kept confidential? We will use the information on your form to decide if your child should get free or reduced price meals. We may inform officials connected with other child nutrition, health and education programs of the information on your form to determine benefits for those programs or for funding and/or evaluation purposes.

Can I apply for free and reduced price meals later? You may apply for free and reduced price meals at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but have a change, like a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, become unemployed or get SNAP, TANF or benefits from FDPIR, complete a form then.

We will let you know if you are approved or denied.

Sincerely,

Ben Jacobson

Director of Food Services

RSU 26 Orono School Systems

bjacobson@rsu26.org 866-7110