



# South Heart Public School



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## **APPLY FOR FREE MEALS AT SCHOOL!!**

**Please read below AND consider applying!**

### **New Expanded Eligibility Standards for 2023-24**

During the 2023 ND Legislative Session, the legislature expanded the federal poverty guidelines to include families who earn up to 200% poverty level. Families who qualify based on Federal or State Expanded Income Eligibility Guidelines (NDEIEG) will not need to pay for breakfast or lunch. The new State Free Eligibility will provide meal reimbursements for those students who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals under federal income guidelines, but whose income falls below the 200% poverty level.

This means that substantially more families will qualify for FREE breakfast and free lunch at school. There are 3 categories:

Federal Free Meals: For families that earn up to 130% poverty level, **breakfast and lunch will be FREE!**

Federal Reduced Price Meals: For families that earn between 130%-185% poverty level, **breakfast and lunch will also be FREE!**

\*NEW for 2023-24: For families that qualify for federal reduced price meals, the state of ND will be paying the reduced price on behalf of these families.  
Therefore, **Reduced Price Meals will now be FREE!**

State Free Meals (NEW): For families that earn up to 200% poverty level, **breakfast and lunch will be FREE!**

\*NEW for 2023-24 This is a new program sponsored by the state of ND.

**THIS MEANS ALL FAMILIES WHOSE HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS 200% POVERTY LEVEL OR BELOW WILL QUALIFY FOR FREE MEALS, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE!!**

**PLEASE APPLY!**

**USE THE 2023-24 APPLICATION FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS.**

Once completed, please bring your application to South Heart School and we will determine if you qualify. Eligibility depends upon household income and household size (# of people residing in the house).

**NOTE: Approved applications not only provide free meals for students, but approved applications also financially benefit South Heart School in 2 ways. The reimbursement South Heart School receives for free meals is greater than the price we charge. Also, our funding for the Title I program is substantially based upon approved federal free and reduced-price applications.**

Note: Milk snacks are not covered by this program and must be purchased.