

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

FREE/ REDUCED GUIDELINES 2023-2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **FCSD 24** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$2.35** lunch costs **\$3.00 ELEMENTARY AND \$3.40 SECONDARY**. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals**. Reduced price is **\$0.50** for breakfast and **\$1.00** for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?
 - All children in households receiving benefits from **SNAP, The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)** or **TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)**, are eligible for free meals with case number.
 - Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Whether placed by the State child welfare agency or a court, in order for a child to be considered eligible for free meals, the State must retain legal custody of the child. You must provide documentation.
 - Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
2. 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 **Bruce Thoren at 307-876-2583**
3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? **No**, one form per household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **Lesa Ladner or the building secretaries**.
4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? **No**, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Lesa Ladner, 307-876-2829 or lladner@fremont24.com** immediately.
5. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? **Yes**. Your child's application is only good for that school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.
6. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? **Yes**. We may also ask you provide proof of the household income you report.
7. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? **Yes**, you may apply at any time during the school year if your income changes.

8. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by contacting: **Bruce Thoren, 307-876-2583.**
9. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
10. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
11. 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.
12. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application or contact **Lesa Ladner** to receive a second application.
13. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **307-777-7564**. If you have other questions or need help, call **307-876-2829**.

Sincerely,

Lesa Ladner
Food Service Manager
307-876-2829
lladner@fremont24.com

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

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Effective from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024											
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES	REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 185 %					FREE MEALS - 130 %				
	ANNUAL	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES											
1	14,580	26,973	2,248	1,124	1,038	519	18,954	1,580	790	729	365
2	19,720	36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702	25,636	2,137	1,069	986	493
3	24,960	45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885	32,318	2,694	1,347	1,243	622
4	30,000	55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068	39,000	3,250	1,625	1,500	750
5	35,140	65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251	45,682	3,807	1,904	1,757	879
6	40,280	74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434	52,364	4,364	2,182	2,014	1,007
7	45,420	84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616	59,046	4,921	2,461	2,271	1,136
8	50,560	93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799	65,728	5,478	2,739	2,528	1,264
For each add'l family member, add	5,140	9,509	793	397	366	183	6,682	557	279	257	129