

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2010**

Household Size	Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals			Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	<u>Annually</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Annually</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>
1	\$14,079	\$1,174	\$271	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$386
2	18,941	1,579	365	26,955	2,247	519
3	23,803	1,984	458	33,874	2,823	652
4	28,665	2,389	552	40,793	3,400	785
5	33,527	2,794	645	47,712	3,976	918
6	38,389	3,200	739	54,631	4,553	1,051
7	43,251	3,605	832	61,550	5,130	1,184
8	48,113	4,010	926	68,469	5,706	1,317
Each add'l member	+4,862	+406	+94	+6,919	+577	+134

**Family/Household** means a group of people who may or may not be related and who do not live in an institution or a boarding house, but who are living as one economic group. Students who are temporarily away at school should be counted as members of the family; however, students who are full-time residents of an institution are considered a family of one.

**Income** means income before deductions for income taxes, employee's social security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions, bonds, etc. It includes the following:

1. Monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions, or fees;
2. Net income from non-farm self-employment;
3. Net income from farm self-employment;
4. Social security;
5. Dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts;
6. Net rental income;
7. Public assistance or welfare payments;
8. Unemployment compensation;
9. Government civilian employee or military retirement, or pensions, or veterans payments;
10. Private pensions or annuities;
11. Alimony or child support payments;
12. Regular contributions from persons not living in the household;
13. Net royalties; and
14. Other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts, and other resources which would be available to pay the price of a child's meal.

**Income** does not include any income or benefits received under any Federal program, which are excluded from consideration as income by any legislative prohibition.

In a household where there is income from wages and self-employment and the self-employment reflects a negative net income, consider that income as zero so as not to offset the wages earned.

In applying guidelines, the family's current rate of income should be used in determining eligibility.

**Current Income** is defined as income received during the month prior to application if such income is representative. Where the prior month's income was much higher or lower than usual, expected income for this year (12 months starting from last month) may be used; for example, self-employed people, farmers, and migrant workers.

**Foster Children** are considered a one-member family when the welfare agency is legally responsible for the child and the foster home is, in fact, an extension of the welfare agency. Welfare agency payments, specifically identified by category for the personal use of that foster child and funds personally received by the child, are considered the income of that one-member family. Welfare funds identified for shelter and care, medical and therapeutic needs, and special needs funds should not be considered as income.

In cases where the welfare agency has placed a child in a permanent home and/or subsidizes the child's adoption, the child is considered a member of the household. The family size and total income of the family determine the child's eligibility for free and reduced price meals.

**Institutionalized Children** are considered as a one-member family and only monies the child actually receives and controls shall be considered as income for determining eligibility.