

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM



What is the School Meals Program?

The Free or Reduced Price School Meals Program is a federally funded program that provides breakfast, lunch and after school snacks to families who meet the income eligibility guidelines and are enrolled in public schools. Menus are planned in compliance with regulations established by the State of California and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the San Francisco Unified School District Wellness Policy.

What are the benefits of the School Meal Program?

For families that qualify, their children are entitled to nutritionally balanced meals at no charge. Consequently, students learn more, work faster and score higher on tests. Participation in the School Meals Program can also help our schools qualify for much needed Grant Funding, which is directly tied to the percentage of applications returned from qualifying students

Can non-citizens/non-residents qualify for School Meal Programs?

Yes! The School Meals Program is an entitlement program and therefore all children in the United States, regardless of their citizenship status, may receive a meal at no cost or at an affordable price. Children do not need to have a social security number to qualify.

Is the Meal Application Form confidential?

YES! The Meal Application form is absolutely confidential and is not shared with INS/ ICE or any outside agency. The meal application forms are processed and filed by the School District only at the office of Student Nutrition Services.

Do I have to reapply every year for the School Meals Program?

Yes, Currently, Federal Law requires the School District to recertify all students for the School Meals Program each year. Even if you qualified last year for a free meal, the District will not receive reimbursements for your child if you do not fill out a new application this year.

Do I have to submit verification documents with my School Meal Application?

No. The School District only asks for verification from a small random sample of applicants.

When can I apply for School Meals?

Any time! The sooner, the better.

When do I learn if my application is approved?

Letters from the School District are sent to parents within 30 business days after the application is submitted.

Call **(415) 749-3604** or come to San Francisco Unified School District, Student Nutrition Department
841 Ellis Street, San Francisco 94109
hours are Mon-Fri from 8am-5pm

Or inquire at your child's school

www.sfusd.edu or www.sfusdfood.org