
Free School Meals End This Summer

Plan Ahead NOW!

Teachwell Solutions is sending this communication as formal notice that free school meals are ending this summer.

In response to COVID-19 work disruptions, Congress approved full funding for school meals for every student since 2020. Recently, Congress voted AGAINST covering school meal costs going forward. Congress also did not grant waivers that allow schools some flexibility in lower cost menu items.

That means starting in the Fall of 2022, parents/guardians will again be responsible for paying for school meals – and fees will more accurately reflect the real cost of each meal instead of being subsidized.

IMPORTANT: If you believe your family meets the income eligibility requirements to qualify for Free or Reduced School Meals, the new 2022-2023 SY form for the fall will be available at the end of July. If you have other students attending a home district other than Teachwell Solutions, you may provide a copy of the approval letter received from that school district.

Those who don't qualify for Free/Reduced Meals will be charged regular price which will be determined in July. When a student's account hits \$5.00, a reminder email will be sent out to families to add money to the account. School meals will not be offered once a student account hits -\$20.00. Teachwell has no choice but to operate in this fiscally responsible manner. Just as drivers cannot fill at the gas pump and drive off or eat at a restaurant without paying, parents/guardians must be responsible for the cost of meals their child eats at school. Teachwell does not have funding to cover unpaid balances.

Child Nutrition Staff take pride in serving nutritious meals each day to fuel your child's learning. Strict caloric, fat, sodium, and other health guidelines must be followed to ensure a nutritionally balanced menu. Please encourage your student to try new foods, be kind to child nutrition staff, and to be flexible should a last-minute change be required due to the nationwide labor shortage and supply chain issues.