



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Weatherford ISD** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$1.25 for all students**. Lunch for elementary students costs **\$2.25** and for secondary school students costs **\$2.75**. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is **\$0.30** for breakfast and **\$0.40** for lunch. An application is attached. The following questions and answers will provide information about the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program.

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?

No. Complete one *Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application* to apply for free or reduced-price meals for all children in the household. We cannot approve an incomplete application, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to WISD Child Nutrition, 102 Meadowview Road, Suite 100, Weatherford, Texas 76087, **817-598-2991**.

2. Who can get free meals?

- **Income**—Your children can get free or reduced-price meals if your household's gross income (total, without deductions) is within the limits described on the *Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines*.
- **Special Program Participants**—All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), can get free meals regardless of income. Children who attend Head Start, Early Head Start, and Even Start are also eligible for free meals.
- **Foster**—Foster children under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. A foster child is eligible for free meals regardless of the income of his or her resident household.
- **Homeless, Runaway, and Migrant**—Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told about a child's status as homeless, runaway, or migrant, please call or email **Dr. Chip Evans, Homeless Liaison, 817-598-2806**.

3. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free meals?

Carefully read the letter you received and follow the instructions. Call the **Child Nutrition Office at 817-598-2991** if you have questions.

4. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another one?

Yes. Your child's application is only good for one school year and the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for this school year.

5. I get WIC, can my child(ren) get free meals?

Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals; please fill out an application.

6. What if my income is not always the same?

List the amount that you normally receive. Even if you missed some work in the last month, put down your usual pay. If you normally get overtime pay, include it. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

7. We are in the military.

Do we include our housing allowance as income?

If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.

Is combat pay counted as income?

No, if combat pay is received because of deployment in addition to basic pay and was not received before deployment, combat pay is not counted as income.

8. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?

Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

9. Will the information I give be checked?

Yes, and we may also ask you to send written proof.

10. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?

Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year. If your household income or circumstances change, you may become eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

11. Who should I include as members of my household?

You must include yourself as well as others living with you who share income and expenses—related to you or not (grandparents, other relatives, or friends. Do not include others who live with you who are economically independent—that is anyone you do not support, does not share income with you, and does pay a pro-rated share of expenses.

12. 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 calling or writing to **Grant Priess, Exec. Director of Safety & Transportation, 1100 Longhorn Drive, Weatherford, Texas 76086, 817-598-2800**.

13. My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for?

To find out how to apply for other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or 2-1-1.

If you have other questions or need help, call 817-598-2991.

Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al teléfono 817-598-2991.

Sincerely,

Jerolyn Goodman, RD, SNS
Director of Child Nutrition Programs
Weatherford I.S.D.

Multi-Child and Multi-Use Free and Reduced Price School Meals Applications for 2013–2014

More Information on How to Report Your Income on the Application

- Gross Income—Record the amount earned before taxes and other deductions.
- How Often Income Is Received—Record type of income received for the month—weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly and not the take-home pay. You should be able to find this information on your paystub, or ask your boss.
- All Other Income—Record Worker’s Compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, federal education benefits, and foster payments received from the placing agency. For **ONLY** the self-employed, under *Earnings from Work Before Deductions*, report income after expenses. This is for your business, farm, or rental property. If you are in the Military Privatized Housing Initiative or get combat pay, do not include these allowances as income.

Income Eligibility Reduced-Price Guidelines—July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014					
Family Size	Annually	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$21,257	\$1,772	\$886	\$818	\$409
2	\$28,694	\$2,392	\$1,196	\$1,104	\$552
3	\$36,131	\$3,011	\$1,506	\$1,390	\$695
4	\$43,568	\$3,631	\$1,816	\$1,676	\$838
5	\$51,005	\$4,251	\$2,126	\$1,962	\$981
6	\$58,442	\$4,871	\$2,436	\$2,248	\$1,124
7	\$65,879	\$5,490	\$2,745	\$2,534	\$1,267
8	\$73,316	\$6,110	\$3,055	\$2,820	\$1,410
<i>For each additional family member add:</i>					
	+ \$7,437	+ \$620	+ \$310	+ \$287	+ \$144

Application Instructions

<i>Not everyone has to complete every part of the application. The following table lists the parts of the application you must complete based on household circumstances.</i>	
Your household receives any of the following benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or - the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) 	Complete Parts 1, 2, & 5. (not necessary to provide last 4 digits of Social Security number)
Any child in your household has been identified as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - homeless, - migrant, or - runaway, but no one in the household receives state SNAP or TANF benefits.	Complete Parts 1, 3, 4 (for any child not listed in Part 3), & Part 5.
All children in the home are foster children placed by a foster care agency or court.	Complete Parts 1 & 5. (not necessary to provide last 4 digits of Social Security number)
Some of the children in the home are foster children placed by a foster care agency or court.	Complete Parts 1, 2 if applies, 3 if applies, 4, & 5.
The household receives WIC.	Complete Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5.
All other households.	Complete Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5.
Multi-Use Form—Only if asked to complete a multi-use form	Complete Part 6, Optional

See Application Form