

Policy Title: Child Nutrition Program	Revised Date 8/9/05
Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals	Policy Number 701.3

The Child Nutrition Program, as part of the Federally-Assisted National School Lunch Program, must make available free and reduced priced meals to eligible children.

The Free and Reduced Officer shall be the authority designated to determine if children are eligible for free or reduced price meals under the current Federal guidelines. In the event a request for a free or reduced price meal is denied, the case may be referred, at the request of the applicant, to the Superintendent or Business Manager for further review and appropriate action.

The Federal guidelines for free and reduced meal benefits are published every Fall prior to school starting. Criteria (including income guidelines announced by the USDA) and application forms are sent home each year with all students in Grades K-12. Applications are also available in each school kitchen and from the District Office. Procedures for issuing free and reduced price meals shall insure that the recipient is treated in the same manner as all other students. The fact he/she is receiving free or reduced price meals shall be treated as strictly confidential information.

The maximum allowable charge amount per student account is three (3) times the cost of lunch at each school. Students are permitted to charge breakfast, lunch, and a la carte items up to the allowable amount. Schools are not required to serve meals to students who refuse to pay if they have the financial ability to do so, unless he/she will suffer if not permitted to eat.

The Child Nutrition Program will operate in such a manner that no student shall be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or handicap.