

USDA Waiver for Free Meals

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Who is eligible for free breakfast and free lunch? All Students enrolled in Lake Central School Corporation. This is for all students attending school in the buildings and eLearners. To participate in school buildings your student needs to pick up their breakfast and lunch meals in their school cafeteria during the designated meal times. All food items are prepackaged and placed in a to-go bag for safety.

My child is an eLearner and I'd like to pick up free meals, what do I need to do?

Please go to the LCSC website and under the Food Service tab there will be information for meal pick up. Please complete the form and submit it to the email address listed so we can have meals ready for you at pick up.

Do I have to pay money back for my student's free meals? No, the funding is provided through the USDA. The meals will be free until the end of the 2020-2021 school year or when funding runs out, whichever comes first. Current negative balances will still need to be paid in full.

What type of meals will be provided? Your student may have one free breakfast and one free lunch meal per day when school is in session. Menus are posted on the Food Service section of the LCSC website. All meals will follow the USDA meal pattern guidelines. Your student may select the entrée of their choice along with a fruit and/or vegetable and a milk if they would like. All meals must include a fruit or vegetable. Menus are subject to change based on product availability.

How does this help the LC Food Service Department? When your student eats meals provided by the Food Service Department you are supporting the department. The Food Service Department is a self-funded department. We receive Federal reimbursement for each meal served. The revenue we receive is used to pay expenses for the department.

I was on the Free and Reduced program for 2019-20 and received a letter to apply again this year. Do I need to do this if meals are free anyway? Yes. This program is temporary and when funding ends our meal program will go back to our current program. If you don't submit an application for the 2020-2021 school year your benefits may lapse.

I received a letter that my household is approved for reduced meals for the 2020-21 school year, will my student be charged \$.40 for lunch and \$.30 for breakfast? No, they will receive the meals free until the end of the 2020-2021 school year or when funding runs out, whichever comes first. When this happens, your student will resume to the reduced price eligibility for the 2020-2021 school year.

Will I get textbook assistance too? No, this program does not have anything to do with textbook assistance. If your family is approved for the Free and Reduced Program for the 2020-2021 school year, there may be textbook assistance available. Applications are available online in Skyward Parent Access.

Why should I have my child eat the free meals? It extends your food budget and saves you time prepping lunches. It offers assistance to families by minimizing the financial challenges during a pandemic.