

How to get a **FREE LUNCH** for your child & **HELP YOUR SCHOOL** at the same time



Your child may be eligible for **free or reduced-price** school meals.

Did you know? There are extra benefits as well — students on this program can also qualify for reduced fees for 4J athletics and activities, free LTD bus passes for some high school students, and discounts on other community sports and recreation programs, such as Kidsports and RecZone. (A separate release form must be submitted.)

How does it help your school? Additional federal funding is provided to schools based on free and reduced counts, so if you qualify and fill out a form you are helping your family and your school!

How do you qualify? If your household income is at or below the amount on the income chart shown below or if your family receives food stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or benefits from the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), your child can receive this benefit.

Household Size	Annual	Month	Week
-1-	20,147	1,679	388
-2-	27,214	2,268	524
-3-	34,281	2,857	660
-4-	41,348	3,446	796
-5-	48,415	4,035	932
-6-	55,482	4,624	1,067
-7-	62,549	5,213	1,203
-8-	69,616	5,802	1,339
For each additional family member add...	+ 7,067	+ 589	+ 136

How do you apply? Your child’s school has applications and release forms available for you to fill out, or you may get one online at www.4j.lane.edu or at the 4J Education Center, 200 North Monroe St. in Eugene.

This is a confidential program. The only people who will know your child is receiving benefits are nutrition staff (unless a release form is submitted in order for us to release information to 4J Athletics, Kidsports, LTD or other organizations offering benefits to qualifying students). Great care is taken to ensure that children on the program are not identified to other students or adults. If you have any questions about the program or how to apply, please feel free to contact Nancy Gripp at the Eugene School District, 541-790-7659.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Oregon prohibit discrimination in all USDA programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Dear Parent/Guardian: Children need healthy meals to learn. The Eugene School District 4J offers healthy meals every school day.

Prices are as follows: Elementary Schools:	Breakfast	\$1.25	Lunch	\$2.50
Middle Schools:	Breakfast	\$1.50	Lunch:	\$2.75
High Schools:	Breakfast	\$1.75	Lunch:	\$3.00

Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced Price: Breakfast \$0.00 Lunch: \$.40

The Oregon Legislature provided funding to eliminate the reduced price payment for breakfasts. For school year 2011-12 breakfast will be accessible at no cost to students qualifying for reduced price meals.

1. **Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free meals?** Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call Nutrition Services at (541) 790-7656 if you have questions.
2. **Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Eugene School District 4J, Nutrition Svc, 200 N. Monroe Street, Eugene, OR 97402.
3. **Who can get free meals?** Children in households getting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, TANF or FDPIR can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines.
4. **Can foster children get free meals?** Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court can get free meals. Any foster child in the household can get free meal regardless of income.
5. **Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Please call Deborah Dailey at (541) 790-8900 to see if your child(ren) qualifies, if you have not been informed that they will get free meals.
6. **Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart shown on the back of the application.
7. **If my child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, when will the meal benefits begin?** Meal benefits for new applications cannot start until an application is approved. Please provide a lunch or money for a paid lunch until you receive notice that the application is approved.
8. **I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?** This can only be determined by completing and submitting the enclosed application for meal benefits. Please fill out an application.
9. **My children receive Oregon Health Plan benefits. Can they get free meals?** This can only be determined by completing and submitting the enclosed application for meal benefits. Please fill out an application.
10. **Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
11. **If I do not qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year.
12. **What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?** You should talk to Nutrition Services. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Susan Fahey, CFO & Director of Support Services, 200 N. Monroe Street, Eugene, Oregon 97402 Phone #(541) 790-7659
13. **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 a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
14. **Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you. Foster children may be included as household members. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
15. **What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.
16. **We are in the military; do we include our housing allowance? If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be counted as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.**
17. **My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is combat pay counted as income?** Combat pay is excluded if it is received in addition to the service member's basic pay; because of the deployment; **and** not received before being deployed.
18. **My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for?** To find out how to apply for State SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 1-800-SAFENET (723-3638).

If you have other questions or need help, call Nancy Gripp (541) 790-7659.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING

For Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits OR Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Households, do the following:

Part 1: Complete Household information

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark the checkbox, if they are a formally placed foster child in the family.

Part 3: Give the name of the person in the household with benefits and their SNAP or TANF case number, examples: (SNAP) benefits (F11-11-1111) or TANF (AA111 or AAA111)

Part 4: Skip this part.

Part 5: Sign the form. A Social Security Number is not necessary.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

If you are applying for a FOSTER CHILD, follow these instructions:

Part 1: Complete Household information

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark the checkbox, if they are a formally placed foster child in the family

Part 3: Skip this part

Part 4: Skip this part

Part 5: Sign the form. A Social Security Number is not necessary

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

OR Complete a household application for the entire household including the foster child following instructions for "All Other Households"

ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, including WIC households, follow these instructions:

Part 1: Complete Household information.

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark if child is foster.

Part 3: Skip this part.

Part 4: Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

Column 1–Name: List the first and last name of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself, those children living with you but not attending school and children in school receiving regular income. Do not repeat children listed in part 2 unless they receive regular income. Attach another sheet of paper if you need to.

Column 2 –Gross Monthly Income. Next to each person's name, list each type of income received last month. For example, *Monthly Income:* List the **gross income** each person earned from work. This is not the same as take-home pay. **Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions.** The amount should be listed on your pay stub, or your boss can tell you. If your income is paid weekly, every 2 weeks or twice a month, follow the instructions on the back of the application.

Column 3 - List the amount each person got last month from welfare, child support, alimony.

Column 4 – List the amount each person got last month from pensions, retirement, Social Security.

Column 5 – List the amount each person got last month from Worker's Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), disability benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and ANY OTHER INCOME.

Report net income for self-owned business, farm, or rental income. Next to the amount, write how often the person got it. If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative do not include this housing allowance.

Part 5: An adult household member must sign the form and list the last four (4) numbers of his or her Social Security Number, or mark the box if he or she doesn't have one.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

2011/2012 CONFIDENTIAL FAMILY APPLICATION FOR FREE & REDUCED MEALS

NOTICE:

- If you received an ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION – FREE MEALS from the school district **do not** complete this application.
- See **Application Instructions** on back of form.

1 HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION Print name of person completing this application (Last name, First name)

Name <u>Print</u>	Home Phone or Cell Phone (Circle One)
Mailing Address – Apt #	Work Phone
City State Zip	➔ Number living in this household _____ (Write names of all household members on part 2 and/or part 4 of this form)

2 STUDENT INFORMATION

Child's Name (Legal Last Name, First Name)	School	Grade	Birth Date	Check if Foster Child
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

3 BENEFITS If any member of your household receives SNAP or TANF, provide the name and case number of the member receiving benefits.
**** NOTE: Oregon Medical Card numbers are not valid for use with the National School Lunch Program — only SNAP and TANF.**

Name _____ SNAP Case Number _____ TANF Case Number _____ Go to Part 5 below

Does this household receive FDIPIR (Food Distribution on Indian Reservations)? Yes (Go to Part 5 and complete)

4 HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS & GROSS MONTHLY INCOME – if not monthly, see back for conversions

Column 1 List all household members, including children not attending school, and income. Do not include students listed in part 2, unless they receive regular income. (Last name, first name)	Column 2 MONTHLY INCOME (Total earnings & wages before deductions)	Column 3 MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT, WELFARE, ALIMONY RECEIVED	Column 4 MONTHLY PENSIONS, SOCIAL SECURITY, RETIREMENT	Column 5 OTHER MONTHLY INCOME, including unemployment and workers comp.	Column 6 Check if No Income
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

5 SIGNATURE, DATE and Last four numbers of SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (Adult must sign)

I certify (promise) that all of the information on this application is true (correct) and that all income is reported. I understand that the school will get Federal funds based on the information I give. I understand that school officials may verify (check) the information. I understand that if I give purposely false information, my children may lose meal benefits and I may be prosecuted.

Signature of Adult Household Member _____ Date Signed _____ Social Security Number _____ I do not have a Social Security Number.

X _____ Month/day/year XXX-XX - ____ - ____ (See privacy statement on back)

6 RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP (OPTIONAL)

Mark one ethnic identity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Mark one or more racial identities: Asian American Indian or Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Black or African American White, not of Hispanic origin Other

I prefer all written correspondence in Spanish Russian Other _____

7 I do not want my information shared with State children's health insurance programs. Sign here:

I have a child (or children) who does not have any kind of health coverage – neither private health insurance nor Oregon Health Plan/Healthy Kids. I am interested in free or reduced-cost health coverage for at least one of my children. Yes No

SCHOOL USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Total Income: _____	Number in household: _____	Date Withdrawn: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Free based on: <input type="checkbox"/> SNAP/TANF <input type="checkbox"/> FDIPIR <input type="checkbox"/> household income <input type="checkbox"/> foster child's Income	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced based on: <input type="checkbox"/> household income <input type="checkbox"/> foster child's income	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied – Reason: <input type="checkbox"/> income too high <input type="checkbox"/> incomplete application
Determining Official's Signature : _____		Date _____
		Until: _____ Until: _____ (maximum 45 days each)

Application Instructions

- If your household receives **SNAP, TANF or FDPIR**, complete parts 1, 2, 3 and 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.
- If you do not receive these benefits and your **income** is below the guidelines, complete parts 1, 2, 4 and 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.
- If you are a household with a **FOSTER CHILD**, complete parts 1, 2, 4, and 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.

DETERMINING MONTHLY INCOME FOR EARNINGS & WAGES

Monthly income for all household members must be reported in Part 4 of this application. Income means any money regularly received from work, child support, alimony, pensions, retirements, social security or any other source. Exclude student/school loans.

Household members who are not paid monthly should change earnings into monthly income by doing the following:

Household members who are paid every week: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 52. Then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are paid every 2 weeks: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 26. Then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are paid twice a month: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 24. Then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are seasonal workers or work less than 12 months: Project annual rate of income to accurately represent actual circumstances, then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the projected monthly income.

Note: Money received from a business or farm owned by you should be reported as "net income." *Net Income is defined as the total income left after business and farm operating expenses are subtracted from gross receipts.*

FEDERAL INCOME GUIDELINES

Your children may qualify at least for reduced price meals if your household income falls within the limits of this chart.

Household Size	<i>Reduced Price Meals</i>				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
-1-	20,147	1,679	840	775	388
-2-	27,214	2,268	1,134	1,047	524
-3-	34,281	2,857	1,429	1,319	660
-4-	41,348	3,446	1,723	1,591	796
-5-	48,415	4,035	2,018	1,863	932
-6-	55,482	4,624	2,312	2,134	1,067
-7-	62,549	5,213	2,607	2,406	1,203
-8-	69,616	5,802	2,901	2,678	1,339
For each additional family member add	7,067	589	295	272	136

PRIVACY STATEMENT - SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS and OTHER INFORMATION

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last 4 digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last 4 digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program case number or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We **may** share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs; auditors for program reviews; and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules. We may share the information on this form with Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), unless you tell us not to. The information, if disclosed, will only be used to identify eligible children and seek to enroll them in Medicaid or SCHIP.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability." To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call, toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individual who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay at (800) 877-8339 or (866) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."