

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

404-558-3857 Andrea L. Johnson

Name of SFA Contact/Phone

The **State Schools** announces its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children unable to
(LOCAL SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY)

pay the full price served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following annual family size and income criteria for determining eligibility.

FAMILY SIZE	COLUMN I FREE MEALS If Family Income is Within	COLUMN II REDUCED-PRICE MEALS If Family Income is Within
1	0 to 15,782	15,783 to 22,459
2	0 to 21,398	21,399 to 30,451
3	0 to 27,014	27,015 to 38,443
4	0 to 32,630	32,631 to 46,435
5	0 to 38,246	38,247 to 54,427
6	0 to 43,862	43,863 to 62,419
7	0 to 49,478	49,479 to 70,411
8	0 to 55,094	55,095 to 78,403

FOR EACH ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER, ADD \$5,616 PER YEAR TO THE INCOME LEVEL FOR FREE MEALS AND \$7,992 TO THE INCOME LEVEL FOR REDUCED PRICE MEALS.

REDUCED PRICE BREAKFAST COST:

ELEMENTARY	<u>NA</u>
MIDDLE/JR. HIGH	<u>NA</u>
HIGH SCHOOL	<u>NA</u>

REDUCED PRICE LUNCH COST:

ELEMENTARY	<u>NA</u>
MIDDLE/JR. HIGH	<u>NA</u>
HIGH SCHOOL	<u>NA</u>

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households should fill out the application and return it to the school. Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children may also be eligible for these meals. Families with foster children should contact the school for information regarding benefits. Additional forms are available at the principal's office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time with each school district required to verify a sample annually. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

For school officials to determine eligibility, households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) must list the child's name, their SNAP or TANF case number and the signature of an adult household member. Households not receiving SNAP or TANF must list: child's name, names of all household members, the last four digits of the social security number of a parent or guardian (or an indication that neither possesses a social security number), the amount of income received by each household member, identified by source and frequency, and the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct. The information provided by the household is confidential and will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verifying data. We may inform officials connected with other child nutrition, health, and education programs of the information on your form to determine benefits for those programs or for funding and/or evaluation purposes.

If a household member becomes unemployed, or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Under the provisions of this policy, a school official will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the determination, he/she may contact the school either orally or in writing.

Jan E. Stevenson 1566B Twin Towers East, 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, Atlanta, GA 30334 (404)
232-1503

NAME OF HEARING OFFICIAL	ADDRESS
PHONE	

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 four digits of the social security number of an adult household member. The last four 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) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program 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.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Alternative II
PUBLIC RELEASE FOR BASE YEAR
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH/SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Children need healthy meals to learn. **The State Schools** offers healthy meals every school day at no charge to your child(ren). Our food service receives support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs. We receive additional money for meals served to children from households with income at or below the amounts on the Income Chart. To determine the amount of Federal support to which we are entitled, parents will be asked to complete a free and reduced meal application as soon as possible, sign it, and return it to the school. Federal support is earned for school meals and other school programs based on students' eligibility for free and reduced-price meals.

TO HELP THE SCHOOL GIVE FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS TO CHILD/CHILDREN, A COMPLETE FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH HOUSEHOLD. APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE, SO BE SURE TO FILL OUT ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION UPON RECEIPT.

RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Georgia Academy for the Blind
Attn: School Nutrition Manager
2895 Vineville Avenue
Macon, GA 31204

Atlanta Area School for the Deaf
Attn: School Nutrition Manager
890 North Indian Creek drive
Clarkston, GA 30021

Georgia School for the Deaf
Attn: School Nutrition Manager
232 Perry Farm Road SW
Cave Spring, GA 30124

The following schools will be participating in this special provision and provide meals at no charge to children:

- 1. The Georgia Academy for the Blind**
- 2. The Atlanta Area School for the Deaf**
- 3. The Georgia School for the Deaf**

Here is important information parents need to know.

1. All children in your household will receive meals at **no** charge regardless of income.
2. You will receive notification of eligibility for free or reduced-price meals once the application has been processed. Regardless of the determination, all meals will be served to children at no charge. The application approval determines the federal reimbursement we receive to cover the costs of the meals served.
3. Information provided on the application may be checked. We may ask you to send written proof of the information you give. If your application is selected for verification you will be notified in writing.

2018-2019

4. If your child qualifies or if your children qualify because you listed a SNAP or TANF case number, you do not have to inform the school when you no longer get SNAP or TANF.
5. Children in households participating in WIC, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please fill out an application. All children will receive meals at no charge.
6. You may complete an application at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting SNAP or TANF.
7. 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:

Jan E. Stevenson, Assistant Director
Division of State Schools
Georgia Department of Education
1566B Twin Towers East
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 232-1503

If you have other questions or need help, call 404-558-3857, Andrea L. Johnson, School Nutrition Director.

Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al teléfono: 404-558-3857, Andrea L. Johnson, School Nutrition Director

Si vous voudriez d'aide, contactez nous au numero: 404-558-3857 Andrea L. Johnson, School Nutrition Director.

Sincerely,

Andrea L. Johnson
School Nutrition Director