

PUBLIC RELEASE

Burlington Public Schools is announcing its policy for determining eligibility of children who may receive free or reduced price meals served under the National School Lunch Program.

Breakfast is free to all students at all schools. Lunch is free at Flynn, Smith, IAA, SA, and Hunt Schools. Lunch costs \$2.25 at Edmunds Elementary/Middle School, Champlain and \$3.25 at BHS.

Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is **\$0.40** for lunch.

Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?
 - a. All children in households receiving benefits from **VT SNAP** or **VT TANF** are eligible for free meals.
 - b. **Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.**
 - c. **Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.**
 - d. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
 - e. Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

If you have received a **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** from Burlington Public Schools for the 2018-2019 school year, you **do not** need to complete an application. Please notify the school if any children in the household are not listed on the **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** letter you received.

Burlington Public School families who were eligible for free or reduced meals for 2017-2018 school year must submit new applications for their children on or before October 10th, 2018 to continue to receive free or reduced meals for the 2018-2019 school year.

Applications are accepted at any time during the school year and will be effective when approved by the Food Service Office. Applications are available on the Burlington School Food Project website and are available at the main office of each school. If you would like to request an application be sent to you in the mail please contact your child's school or call the Food Service Director's office at 802-864-8416

2018-19 INCOME GUIDELINES FOR CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS											
FREE MEALS/MILK						REDUCED-PRICE MEALS					
Number in Family	Annual Gross Income	Monthly Gross Income	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks Gross Income	Weekly Gross Income	Number in Family	Annual Gross Income	Monthly Gross Income	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks Gross Income	Weekly Gross Income
1	15,782	1,316	658	607	304	1	22,459	1,872	936	864	432
2	21,398	1,784	892	823	412	2	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586
3	27,014	2,252	1,126	1,039	520	3	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740
4	32,630	2,720	1,360	1,255	628	4	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893
5	38,246	3,188	1,594	1,471	736	5	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047
6	43,862	3,656	1,828	1,687	844	6	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201
7	49,478	4,124	2,062	1,903	952	7	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355
8	55,094	4,592	2,296	2,119	1,060	8	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508
Each Additional Family Member	+ 5,616	+ 468	+ 234	+ 216	+ 108	Each Additional Family Member	+ 7,992	+ 666	+ 333	+ 308	+ 154

Calculating Household Income

- If there is **only one source of income** or if all sources are received in the same frequency, **no conversion is required.**
- If there are multiple income sources with more than one frequency, the LEA must annualize all income by multiplying:
 - Weekly income by 52;
 - Bi-weekly income (received every two weeks) by 26;
 - Semi-monthly income (received twice a month) by 24;
 - Monthly income by 12.
- Do not round the values resulting from each conversion.
- Add all of the un-rounded converted values and compare the un-rounded converted total to the appropriate IEG for annual income for the household size.
- Refer to pages 32-36 in the Eligibility Manual for School Meals (July 2018) for more information.

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