

LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LETTER TO HOUSEHOLDS ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM
AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM FOR 2011-2012**

Dear Parent or Guardian: (NOTE: USE ONE APPLICATION FOR ALL STUDENTS IN HOUSEHOLD)

The Lake Tahoe Unified School District takes part in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. Meals are served every school day. Students at the elementary schools may buy lunch for \$2.25 and/or breakfast for \$1.25. Students at the middle and high school may buy lunch for \$2.75 and/or breakfast for \$1.50. Eligible students may receive meals free or at a reduced price of 40 cents for lunch and 30 cents for breakfast. Students may buy milk for 50 cents.

- If you now receive CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CaWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin-GAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits, your child may receive free meals.
- If your total household income is the same or less than the amounts on the income scale below, your child may receive meals free or at a reduced price. Household means a group of related or non-related individuals who are living as one economic unit and sharing living expenses. Living expenses include rent, clothes, food, doctor bills, and utility bills.
- A foster care child who is under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court is eligible to receive free meals.

HOW TO APPLY -

Complete and sign the **Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals or Free Milk**, and return it to the school as soon as possible. The application cannot be approved and may be returned if it contains incomplete eligibility information. ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD

CalFresh, CaWORKs, Kin-GAP, and FDPIR HOUSEHOLDS
If you now get CalFresh, CaWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits for your child(ren), list each child's name, and your CalFresh, CaWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number in Section A. You must have a Case number. Skip Section B and complete Section C. You do not have to enter your social security number but you must sign the application.

FOSTER CARE CHILDREN or CHILDREN PLACED IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE Foster children are no longer considered a household of one and can be listed as a household member along with non-foster children. Previously, a separate application was required for each foster child. You do not have to enter your social security number but you must sign the application.

ALL OTHER INCOME HOUSEHOLDS (wages, salary, pensions, etc.) — If you **do not** enter a CalFresh, CaWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number for **each** student listed on the application, you must complete section A, B, and C. Please list the following: (next column)

- The names of all school-age children in your household and the school(s) they attend. (Section A)
- The names of all other children in your household who do not attend school. (Section A)
- The names of all adults and other household members, the amount each person received last month, and the source of income. (Section B)
- The last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or check the box "I do not have a Social Security number." (Section C)

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

| Household Size | Income Eligibility Guidelines | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| | Year | Month | Twice Per Month | Every Two Weeks | Week |
| 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 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating 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 866-632-9992. (Voice) Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339, or 800-845-6136 (Spanish).

CURRENT INCOME—The amount of income each household member received **last month**, before taxes or anything else is taken out, **and** where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions, and other income. If any amount **last month** was more or less than usual, write the usual monthly income or project the annual income.

| INCOME TO REPORT | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| EARNINGS FROM WORK | WELFARE CHILD SUPPORT ALIMONY | PENSIONS RETIREMENT SOCIAL SECURITY | OTHER INCOME |
| <p>Wages, salaries and tips, strike benefits, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, net income from self-owned business or farm</p> | <p>Public assistance payments, welfare payments, alimony, and child support payments</p> | <p>Pensions, supplemental security income, retirement payments, Social Security Income (SSI) (including SSI a child receives)</p> | <p>Disability benefits; cash withdrawn from savings; interest and dividends; income from estates, trusts, and investments; regular contributions from persons not living in the household; net royalties and annuities; net rental income; any other income</p> |

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR) —

Households participating in the FDPIR are categorically eligible for free meals or milk. The FDPIR is authorized by Section 4(b) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977. Under this section, eligible households may elect to participate in either the Food Stamp Program **or** the FDPIR. Since households are afforded the option to participate in either program, FDPIR households have been determined to receive the same categorical benefits as Food Stamp households.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER —

The application must have the last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult who signs it. If the adult does not have a Social Security number, check the box "I do not have a social security number." If a CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number for the child is listed, a Social Security number is **not** required.

APPLYING FOR BENEFITS —

You may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but your income goes down, you lose your job, your family size becomes larger, or you become eligible for CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits, you may submit an application at that time.

VERIFICATION —

School officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year. You may be asked to send information to prove your income, or current eligibility for CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits.

MEALS FOR DISABLED —

If you believe your child needs a food substitute or texture modification because of a disability, please contact the school. A child with a disability is entitled to a special meal at no extra charge if the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal.

WIC PARTICIPANTS —

If you currently receive benefits under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children—better known as the WIC Program—your child **may** be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. You are encouraged to complete an application and return it to the school for processing.

NONDISCRIMINATION — Children who receive free or reduced-priced meals must be treated in the same manner as those children who pay full price for their meals.

FAIR HEARING — If you do not agree with the school's decision regarding your application or the result of verification, you may discuss it with the school. You also have the right to a fair hearing. A fair hearing may be requested by calling or writing the following school official:

Dr. James Tarwater
Superintendent
1021 Al Tahoe Blvd.
So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 541-2850

CONFIDENTIALITY — Family size, household income, and Social Security number information will remain confidential and will not be shared for any purpose. Information you provide will determine your child(ren)'s eligibility to receive free or reduced-price meals.

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the application, please contact:

Shelley Giannotta
1021 Al Tahoe Blvd.
So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 541-2850 ext. 289

You will be notified by the school when your application has been approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals.

Sincerely,

Shelley Giannotta
Director of School Nutrition