Los Angeles Unified School District
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News Release

For Immediate Release

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LAUSD PARTICIPATES IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) participates in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. Meals are served to students every school day. A copy of the policy is available in the Food Services Office and may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria are used to determine a student's eligibility for free, reduced-price or full-price meal benefits. Children from households with incomes at or below eligible levels may qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive Food Stamp, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (KinGAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals, regardless of the income of the household in which they reside. Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the child's income.

Income Eligibility Guidelines July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

	FREE ELIGIBILITY SCALE LUNCH, BREAKFAST, MILK					REDUCED-PRICE ELIGIBILITY SCALE LUNCH, BREAKFAST				
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK
1	$ 12,740	$ 1,062	$ 531	$ 490	$ 245	$ 18,130	$ 1,511	$ 756	$ 698	$ 349
2	17,160	1,430	715	660	330	24,420	2,035	1,018	940	470
3	21,580	1,799	900	830	415	30,710	2,560	1,280	1,182	591
4	26,000	2,167	1,084	1,000	500	37,000	3,084	1,542	1,424	712
5	30,420	2,535	1,268	1,170	585	43,290	3,608	1,804	1,665	833
6	34,840	2,904	1,452	1,340	670	49,580	4,132	2,066	1,907	954
7	39,260	3,272	1,636	1,510	755	55,870	4,656	2,328	2,149	1,075
8	43,680	3,640	1,820	1,680	840	62,160	5,180	2,590	2,391	1,196
For each additional family member, add:										
	$ 4,420	$ 369	$ 185	$ 170	$ 85	$ 6,290	$ 525	$ 263	$ 242	$ 121

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Meal applications are being distributed to households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children. Applications are also available at the main office at each school. **To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households must complete a "2006-2007 Application for Meal Benefits" and return it to the school or in the self-addressed, pre-paid envelope attached to the application.** Meal applications may be submitted at any time during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: for households receiving Food Stamp, CalWORKs, KinGAP, or FDPIR benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, Food Stamp, CalWORKs, KinGAP, or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. For households that do not list a Food Stamp, CalWORKs, KinGAP, or FDPIR case number, the application must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding social security number of an adult household member. If the household member who signs the application does not have a social security number, the household member must indicate that a social security number is not available.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the determining official(s), as designated by the Food Services Branch, shall review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If still dissatisfied, parents or guardians may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision, and may do so orally by calling (213) 241-3185 or in writing to Food Services Branch, Meal Compliance Unit, 333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 28th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school the child is attending. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels of the "Income Eligibility Guidelines" listed above.

Children whose households are currently certified to receive Food Stamp, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (KinGAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) may not have to complete an application for meal benefits. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on

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documentation obtained from the Department of Public Social Services that a child is a member of a household currently receiving Food Stamp or FDPIR benefits or an assistance unit receiving CalWORKS or KinGAP benefits. School officials will notify households of their eligibility, but those who do not want their child(ren) to receive free meals must contact the school. Food Stamp, CalWORKs, KinGAP and FDPIR households should complete a meal application if they have not been notified of their eligibility.

The Los Angeles Unified School District also participates in a Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Alternative, known as “Provision 2 (Non-Pricing).” This provision reduces application and paperwork burdens for staff and parents or guardians, and simplifies meal counting and claiming procedures. Schools that qualify are selected and must serve meals to all children at no charge for up to four consecutive years.

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 Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). The USDA is an equal opportunity provider.

For more information, contact:

Los Angeles Unified School District
Food Services Branch – Meal Compliance Unit
333 South Beaudry Street, 28th Floor Los Angeles, California 90017
213-241-3185

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