



Mississippi Department of Education
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August 26, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Today, the Mississippi Department of Education and *(Please include the names of public school districts, private schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions-(RCCIs) in your circulation area. The attached list is organized by counties)*, announce the United States Department of Agriculture income guidelines for free and reduced price meals served under the School Lunch, School Breakfast, After School Snack Program, and Food Distribution Programs. Families with children in any of these facilities who are unable to pay the full price of the meals are encouraged to apply for benefits.

Meal applications and instructions for applying for meal benefits are sent home with each student during registration or on the first day of attendance. To apply for the meal benefits, each household should fill out the application and return it to the school or institution. Additional copies of the application are available at the administrative office of each facility.

For the school/institution officials to determine eligibility, the household must report income information or provide a **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** formerly the Food Stamp Program or TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number. If the child receives TANF payments or is a member of a SNAP household, or a member of a FDPIR household, the parent or guardian has to provide only the name of the child, SNAP or TANF or FDPIR case number, and sign the application, in order for the child to receive free meals. Homeless, migrant, or runaway youth are categorically eligible for free meals.

Other applicants must report household income identified by source, such as earnings, welfare and alimony received by each household member. In order for income applicants to be approved, the household must provide the following on the application: the names of all household members, each household member's monthly income identified by source; the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct; and the social security number of an adult who signs the application or an indication that this adult household member does not have a social security number. The information provided by the household is confidential and will be used only for purposes of determining eligibility and verifying data. The information provided may be verified at any time during the year by the school/institution or program officials.

"Quality Education for Every Child"

Central High School Building • 359 North West Street • P.O. Box 771 • Jackson, MS 39205-0771

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Households are no longer required to report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases in household size. If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school/institution. These changes may make the children of the household eligible for reduced price or free meals. Households may apply for benefits at any time during the year as circumstances change.

In certain cases, foster children are also eligible for meal benefits. If a household has foster children living with them and wish to apply for meal benefits for them, the household should contact the school/institution for more information.

Each school/institution has a copy of their approved free and reduced price meal policy. The policy indicates who is responsible for determining eligibility. The determining official is, in most instances, the principal, the food service administrator, or the program director. Each school/school district/institution has an individual named as the hearing official. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal may make a request either orally or in writing to the hearing official. The school/institution office or the superintendent's office can provide you with the name, address, and phone number of the hearing official.

In accordance with Federal law and U. S. Department of Agriculture policy, each institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call 1-800-795-3272 (voice) or 202-720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Children from households whose income is at or below the Income Eligibility Guidelines may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. The Income Eligibility Guidelines for reduced price meal is not inserted for School Year 2010-2011. **(Inserted is a current listing of public and private schools and RCCIs in your area.)**

LP/tmt

10-85-CN

ADAMS

Natchez-Adams School District
Natchez Children's Home

ALCORN

Alcorn County School District
Corinth School District

AMITE

Amite County School District

ATTALA

Attala County School District
Kosciusko School District

BENTON

Benton County School District

BOLIVAR

Benoit School District
Cleveland School District
Mound Bayou Public School District
North Bolivar School District
Shaw School District
West Bolivar School District

CALHOUN

Calhoun County School District

CARROLL

Carroll County School District

CHICKASAW

Chickasaw County School District
Houston Separate School District
Okolona Separate School District

CHOCTAW

Choctaw County School District
French Camp Academy

CLAIBORNE

Claiborne County School District

CLARKE

Enterprise School District
Quitman School District

CLAY

Clay County School District
Sally Kate Winters Home, RCCI
West Point School District

COAHOMA

Clarksdale Municipal School District
Coahoma AHS
Coahoma County School District
Region 1 MH – Sunflower Landing, RCCI

COPIAH

Copiah County School District
Hazlehurst City School District

COVINGTON

Covington County School District

DESOTO

DeSoto County School District

FORREST

Forrest County AHS
Forrest County School District
Hattiesburg Separate School District
Mount Carmel Baptist Church SCHL
MS Children's Home Society, RCCI

MS National Guard Youth Challenge, RCCI
Petal School District
Sacred Heart School - Forrest

FRANKLIN

Franklin County School District

GEORGE

George County School District

GREENE

Greene County School District

GRENADA

Grenada School District

HANCOCK

Bay St. Louis Catholic Elementary
Bay St. Louis Waveland School District
Hancock County School District

HARRISON

Biloxi Public School District
Gulfport School District
Harrison County School District
Long Beach School District
Nativity BVM Elementary School
Our Lady of Fatima School
Pass Christian Public School District
Sacred Heart – D'Iberville
Specialized Treatment Facility
St. James Elementary School
St. John Elementary School – Harrison
St. Thomas Elementary
Westminister Academy

HINDS

C.M. & I. School
Center for Family Lift Ext., RCCI
Christians In Action, Inc., RCCI
Clinton Public School District

Hinds Co. Board of Supervisors-
Henley/Young Juv. RCCI
Hinds County AHS
Hinds County School District
Jackson Public School District
MS Children's Home Society, RCCI
MS School for the Blind\Deaf
MS Youth Corrections Complex
Positive Living, INC, RCCI
Savior of Life T.G.H.
Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School
St. Therese Catholic School

HOLMES

Durant Public School District
Holmes County School District

HUMPHREYS

Humphreys County School District

ISSAQUENA

ITAWAMBA

Itawamba County School District

JACKSON

Jackson County School District
Jackson County Youth Court, RCCI
Moss Point Separate School District
Ocean Springs School District
Pascagoula Separate School District
Resurrection Catholic Elem. School
St. Alphonsus School – Jackson County

JASPER

East Jasper Consolidated School District
West Jasper Consolidated School District

JEFFERSON

Jefferson County School District

JEFFERSON DAVIS

Jefferson Davis County School District

JONES

Jones County School District
Laurel School District

KEMPER

Kemper County School District

LAFAYETTE

Lafayette County School District
North MS Regional Center, SCHL
Oxford School District

LAMAR

Lamar County School District
Lumberton Public School District

LAUDERDALE

East MS State Hospital, SCHL
Hope Village for Children, RCCI
Lauderdale County School District
Meridian Public School District
St. Patrick School – Lauderdale Co.

LAWRENCE

Lawrence County School District

LEAKE

Leake County School District

LEE

Alpha House, Inc., RCCI
Gardner-Simmons Home for Girls, RCCI
Lee County School District
McDougal Center, SCHL
Nettleton School District

Tupelo Public School District

LEFLORE

Greenwood Public School District
Leflore County School District
St. Francis School – Leflore County

LINCOLN

Brookhaven School District
Lincoln County School District
MS School for the Arts

LOWNDES

Columbus Municipal School District
Lowndes County School District

MADISON

Canton Public School District
Holy Child Jesus Catholic School
Madison County School District

MARION

Columbia School District
Marion County School District

MARSHALL

Holly Springs School District
Holy Family School – Marshall County
Marshall County School District

MONROE

Aberdeen School District
Amory City School District
Monroe County School District

MONTGOMERY

Montgomery County School District
Winona Separate School District

NESHOBA

MS Band of Choctaw Indians School
Neshoba County School District
Philadelphia Public School District

NEWTON

Newton County School District
Newton Municipal School District
Union Public School District

NOXUBEE

Noxubee County School District

OKTIBBEHA

Oktibbeha County School District
Starkville School District
S. Foundation for Homeless, RCCI

PANOLA

North Panola Consolidated School District
South Panola Consolidated School District

PEARL RIVER

Pearl River County School District
Picayune School District
Poplarville Separate School District

PERRY

Perry County School District
Richton Separate School District

PIKE

McComb School District
North Pike School District
South Pike School District

PONTOTOC

Pontotoc City School District

Pontotoc County School District

PRENTISS

Baldwyn Separate School District
Booneville School District
Prentiss County School District

QUITMAN

Quitman County School District

RANKIN

Hudspeth Regional Center, SCHL
MS State Hospital, SCHL
Pearl Public School District
Piney Woods Country Life School
Rankin County School District

SCOTT

Forest Municipal School District
Scott County School District

SHARKEY

South Delta School District

SIMPSON

Simpson County School District

SMITH

Smith County School District

STONE

Stone County School District

SUNFLOWER

Drew School District
Indianola School District
Sunflower County School District

TALLAHATCHIE

East Tallahatchie School District
West Tallahatchie School District

TATE

Senatobia Municipal School District
Tate County School District

TIPPAH

North Tippah School District
South Tippah School District

TISHOMINGO

Tishomingo Co. Special School District

TUNICA

Tunica County School District

UNION

New Albany School District
Union County School District

WALTHALL

Walthall County School District

WARREN

MS Children's Home Society, RCCI
Vicksburg Warren School District

WASHINGTON

Greenville Public School District
Hollandale School District
Leland School District
Western Line School District

WAYNE

Wayne County School District

WEBSTER

Webster County School District

WILKINSON

Wilkinson Co. Christian Academy SCHL
Wilkinson County School District

WINSTON

Louisville Municipal School District

YALOBUSHA

Coffeetown School District
Water Valley School District

YAZOO

Yazoo City Municipal School District
Yazoo County School District