



Lindenwold Board of Education

Kathleen Huder

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

801 Egg Harbor Road • Administration Building • Lindenwold, New Jersey 08021

July/August 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we look forward to a new school year, there are a few important details that we would like to share about our food service program.

Attached to this letter is the State of NJ Parent Letter that explains the lunch application process. **Please review this letter and the attached application and send back the application to your child's school as soon as possible.** Please note the following important items when considering the lunch application:

- If you received a Direct Certification letter this summer, you do NOT have to complete a lunch application. The Direct Certification status means that your child and any other children attending our school that live in your household, qualify for free lunch and there is nothing else you need to do.
- For all others, a NEW lunch application is required each school year for each household. When the school year begins, your child's lunch status is carried over from the prior year, but if a NEW application is not received, your child will be changed to PAID status as of our rollover date. For the 2020-2021 school year, this date will be on October 1, 2020. For example, if your child was eligible for free lunch last year, he/she will be eligible for free lunch until September 30, 2020 without a new lunch application. As of October 1, 2020, he/she would be changed to PAID status, unless you have sent in a new lunch application for the 2020-2021 school year that was determined to be eligible for free lunch.

Lastly, breakfast is free for all students attending our Preschool, School 4, School 5 and Middle School locations. Breakfast is served in the classroom after the bell rings so that all students have an opportunity to eat.

Due to a recent NJ legislative action, there will be no charge for student's meals that are determined as a REDUCED application status. So, both FREE and REDUCED meals will be provided at no cost.

Thank you for your attention to this information. Please contact Maria Smith in the Business Office at (856)783-0276 X3101 with any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Huder".

Kathleen Huder

Business Administrator

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. The **LINDENWOLD BOE** offers healthy meals every school day at the prices listed below. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.**

	FULL PRICE			REDUCED PRICE		
	Elementary	Middle	High	Elementary	Middle	High
National School Lunch	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
School Breakfast	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
After School Snack	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Milk Program	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Split Session Milk Program	N/A	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
N/A - Not Applicable						

This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. For a convenient way to fill out the meal application, go to www.lindenwold.k12.nj.us.

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

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from **NJ SNAP** or **NJ TANF/WorkFirst-NJ** are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- 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.

FEDERAL INCOME CHART For school Year 2020-2021			
Household Size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	23,606	1,968	454
2	31,894	2,658	614
3	40,182	3,349	773
4	48,470	4,040	933
5	56,758	4,730	1,092
6	65,046	5,421	1,251
7	73,334	6,112	1,411
8	81,622	6,802	1,570
For each additional person, add:	+8,288	+691	+160

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail your school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator.
3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to one of your children's schools.
4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact your school immediately.
5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? If available, you are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Contact your school if you have any questions about the online application.
6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. 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:

Hearing Officer Name: Kathleen Huder Address: 801 Egg Harbor Road, Lindenwold, NJ - 08021
 Phone Number: (856)783-0276 Ext: 3102

11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS HELP. ARE THERE ANY PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for NJ SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office, call 1-800-687-9512 or go to <https://oneapp.dhs.state.nj.us/default.aspx>. You can also contact NJ FamilyCare or Medicaid at 1-800-701-0710 or www.njfamilycare.org for information regarding health insurance for your family. For the WIC Program, call 1-800-328-3838 or go to www.nj.gov/health/fhs/wic.

If you have other questions or need help,
call (856)783-0276 Ext:3101

Sincerely,

Signature: _____

Name: Kathleen Huder

Title: Business Administrator

