

**FY2019-2020  
MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS IN  
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND  
SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS**

On 07/29/2019, a public release will be sent to Albuquerque Publishing Co. and NM Dept. of Workforce Solutions.

Horizon Academy West plays a vital role in children's health by providing free and reduced price meals to students in need. The following U.S. Department of Agriculture Programs are offered: National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following family size income criteria for determining eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and will offer meals to students that qualify according to the standards below: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines>

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES												
Effective from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020												
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES	REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 185 %					FREE MEALS - 130 %					
	ANNUAL	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	ANNUAL	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY	
<b>48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES</b>												
1 .....	12,490	23,107	1,926	963	889	445	16,237	1,354	677	625	313	
2 .....	16,910	31,284	2,607	1,304	1,204	602	21,983	1,832	916	846	423	
3 .....	21,330	39,461	3,289	1,645	1,518	759	27,729	2,311	1,156	1,067	534	
4 .....	25,750	47,638	3,970	1,985	1,833	917	33,475	2,790	1,395	1,288	644	
5 .....	30,170	55,815	4,652	2,326	2,147	1,074	39,221	3,269	1,635	1,509	755	
6 .....	34,590	63,992	5,333	2,667	2,462	1,231	44,967	3,748	1,874	1,730	865	
7 .....	39,010	72,169	6,015	3,008	2,776	1,388	50,713	4,227	2,114	1,951	976	
8 .....	43,430	80,346	6,696	3,348	3,091	1,546	56,459	4,705	2,353	2,172	1,086	
<b>For each add'l family member, add</b>	4,420	8,177	682	341	315	158	5,746	479	240	221	111	
<b>ALASKA</b>												
1 .....	15,600	28,860	2,405	1,203	1,110	555	20,280	1,690	845	780	390	
2 .....	21,130	39,091	3,258	1,629	1,504	752	27,469	2,290	1,145	1,057	529	
3 .....	26,660	49,321	4,111	2,056	1,897	949	34,658	2,889	1,445	1,333	667	
4 .....	32,190	59,552	4,963	2,482	2,291	1,146	41,847	3,488	1,744	1,610	805	
5 .....	37,720	69,782	5,816	2,908	2,684	1,342	49,036	4,087	2,044	1,886	943	
6 .....	43,250	80,013	6,668	3,334	3,078	1,539	56,225	4,686	2,343	2,163	1,082	
7 .....	48,780	90,243	7,521	3,761	3,471	1,736	63,414	5,285	2,643	2,439	1,220	
8 .....	54,310	100,474	8,373	4,187	3,865	1,933	70,603	5,884	2,942	2,716	1,358	
<b>For each add'l family member, add</b>	5,530	10,231	853	427	394	197	7,189	600	300	277	139	
<b>HAWAII</b>												
1 .....	14,380	26,603	2,217	1,109	1,024	512	18,694	1,558	779	719	360	
2 .....	19,460	36,001	3,001	1,501	1,385	693	25,298	2,109	1,055	973	487	
3 .....	24,540	45,399	3,784	1,892	1,747	874	31,902	2,659	1,330	1,227	614	
4 .....	29,620	54,797	4,567	2,284	2,108	1,054	38,506	3,209	1,605	1,481	741	
5 .....	34,700	64,195	5,350	2,675	2,470	1,235	45,110	3,760	1,880	1,735	868	
6 .....	39,780	73,593	6,133	3,067	2,831	1,416	51,714	4,310	2,155	1,989	995	
7 .....	44,860	82,991	6,916	3,458	3,192	1,596	58,318	4,860	2,430	2,243	1,122	
8 .....	49,940	92,389	7,700	3,850	3,554	1,777	64,922	5,411	2,706	2,497	1,249	
<b>For each add'l family member, add</b>	5,080	9,398	784	392	362	181	6,604	551	276	254	127	

Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application online at <https://www.myschoolapps.com>. Only one application per household is needed. Computers are available at the School for completion of the application. The information provided on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

For school officials to determine eligibility, households must provide the following information listed on the application: the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member currently receives, where it came from, and how often income is received; the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number. If the adult signing the application does not have a social security number, check the "I do not have a social security number" box. For a child who is a member of a SNAP household or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) assistance unit, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the household need provide only the child's name, the SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number, and printed name and signature of an adult member on the application. An adult in the household with a case number may also qualify students also living in the household.

Public School Districts receive student data matched with the NMPED Department data and automatically qualify children receiving SNAP & TANF. No application is required. All children living in the household and attending the school are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. If a child was not listed on the eligibility notice, contact the school or district office.

Children certified as homeless by the school McKinney-Vento homeless liaison, designated as migrant by the school migrant coordinator as well as children in Head Start classrooms may be eligible for free meals. Contact the school or district office if more information is needed.

Households that do not want their child(ren) to participate in the free meal program should notify the child(ren)'s school.

Foster children, under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. An application may be submitted. The foster child may be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children in the family. If you have questions about applying for foster children, contact the school or district office.

Children residing in households participating in Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals and may complete a meal application.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price policy, the designated approving official(s) will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the approving official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal may make a request, either orally or in writing, to the fair hearing official, Isabel Hunkins, for a hearing on the decision.

The information provided by households is confidential.

Meal benefits from the previous school year apply for the first 30 school days of the new school year or until a new application is submitted. After this time, children must pay full price for meals.

You may apply for meal benefits if you become unemployed or your economic situation changes at any time during the school year.

Contact the school or district office if assistance is needed with application materials in different languages.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1)

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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