

**FY2020-2021
MEDIA RELEASE
FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS IN
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND
SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS**

On 07/01/2020, a public release request will be sent to Albuquerque Publishing Co. and NM Dept. of Workforce Solutions and posted on the School Website, hawest.net, and newsletter.

Horizon Academy West plays a vital role in children's health by providing free and reduced priced 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, 2020 to June 30, 2021												
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	
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AND TERRITORIES												
1	12,760	23,606	1,968	984	908	454	16,588	1,383	692	638	319	
2	17,240	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614	22,412	1,868	934	862	431	
3	21,720	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773	28,236	2,353	1,177	1,086	543	
4	26,200	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933	34,060	2,839	1,420	1,310	655	
5	30,680	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092	39,884	3,324	1,662	1,534	767	
6	35,160	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251	45,708	3,809	1,905	1,758	879	
7	39,640	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411	51,532	4,295	2,148	1,982	991	
8	44,120	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570	57,356	4,780	2,390	2,206	1,103	
For each add'l family member, add	4,480	8,288	691	346	319	160	5,824	486	243	224	112	
ALASKA												
1	15,950	29,508	2,459	1,230	1,135	568	20,735	1,728	864	798	399	
2	21,550	39,868	3,323	1,662	1,534	767	28,015	2,335	1,168	1,078	539	
3	27,150	50,228	4,186	2,093	1,932	966	35,295	2,942	1,471	1,358	679	
4	32,750	60,588	5,049	2,525	2,331	1,166	42,575	3,548	1,774	1,638	819	
5	38,350	70,948	5,913	2,957	2,729	1,365	49,855	4,155	2,078	1,918	959	
6	43,950	81,308	6,776	3,388	3,128	1,564	57,135	4,762	2,381	2,198	1,099	
7	49,550	91,668	7,639	3,820	3,526	1,763	64,415	5,368	2,684	2,478	1,239	
8	55,150	102,028	8,503	4,252	3,925	1,963	71,695	5,975	2,988	2,758	1,379	
For each add'l family member, add	5,600	10,360	864	432	399	200	7,280	607	304	280	140	
HAWAII												
1	14,680	27,158	2,264	1,132	1,045	523	19,084	1,591	796	734	367	
2	19,830	36,686	3,058	1,529	1,411	706	25,779	2,149	1,075	992	496	
3	24,980	46,213	3,852	1,926	1,778	889	32,474	2,707	1,354	1,249	625	
4	30,130	55,741	4,646	2,323	2,144	1,072	39,169	3,265	1,633	1,507	754	
5	35,280	65,268	5,439	2,720	2,511	1,256	45,864	3,822	1,911	1,764	882	
6	40,430	74,796	6,233	3,117	2,877	1,439	52,559	4,380	2,190	2,022	1,011	
7	45,580	84,323	7,027	3,514	3,244	1,622	59,254	4,938	2,469	2,279	1,140	
8	50,730	93,851	7,821	3,911	3,610	1,805	65,949	5,496	2,748	2,537	1,269	
For each add'l family member, add	5,150	9,528	794	397	367	184	6,695	558	279	258	129	

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 **by appointment only**. 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, 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

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