

## 2017-2018 PUBLIC MEDIA RELEASE

Saluda County School District today announced its policy for free and reduced price meals for children served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following household size and income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household size	Federal Poverty Guidelines	(1) Free meals – 130%					(2) Reduced price meals – 185%				
		Annual	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks
1.....	12,060	15,678	1,307	654	603	302	22,311	1,860	930	859	430
2.....	16,240	21,112	1,760	880	812	406	30,044	2,504	1,252	1,156	578
3.....	20,420	26,546	2,213	1,107	1,021	511	37,777	3,149	1,575	1,453	727
4.....	24,600	31,980	2,665	1,333	1,230	615	45,510	3,793	1,897	1,751	876
5.....	28,780	37,414	3,118	1,559	1,439	720	53,243	4,437	2,219	2,048	1,024
6.....	32,960	42,848	3,571	1,786	1,648	824	60,976	5,082	2,541	2,346	1,173
7.....	37,140	48,282	4,024	2,012	1,857	929	68,709	5,726	2,863	2,643	1,322
8.....	41,320	53,716	4,477	2,239	2,066	1,033	76,442	6,371	3,186	2,941	1,471
<b>For each additional family member, add</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>5,434</b>	<b>4453</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>7,733</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>149</b>

**Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown may be eligible for free or reduced price meals.**

For school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information on the application: (1) A SNAP or TANF case number certifying the household is currently eligible for either of these assistance programs and an adult household member signature or (2) names of all household members, the name and last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member signing the application form, current income by source for each household member and a signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct.

Foster children may also be eligible for these benefits regardless of household income. If a household has foster children living with them and the household has not previously been notified by the School District that their foster children have been directly certified for free meals, the household should include and count the foster children (including personal income earned by the foster children) on the household application form with other non-foster children.

Under the provisions of the policy Aileen Connelly will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the reviewing official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewer on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal may make a request either orally or in writing to Dr. David Mathis whose address is: 404 N Wise Rd (864-445-8441) for a hearing to appeal the decision. The hearing procedures are outlined in the policy.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if household size changes, the household should contact the school to file a meal application. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for free or reduced price meals if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the office of the District Superintendent where any interested party may review it.

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules. 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: mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 fax: (202) 690-7442; or email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.