

NISD Child Nutrition

Free & Reduced-Price Meal Applications

For School Year 2021-2022

Northside ISD students will receive meals at **No Cost** under the current USDA Waiver for the 2021-22 School Year. Although a **Free & Reduced-Price Meal Application is Not Required for Student Meals**, Northside ISD families may benefit from the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT). P-EBT is a food benefit for families with children who temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price meals at school during the COVID-19 pandemic. Child Nutrition Services will accept Free & Reduced-Price Meal Applications for potentially future P-EBT Benefits for the 2021-22 School Year.

NOTE: Families that receive SNAP Benefits or have children attending CEP Campuses **DO NOT** need to fill out a Free & Reduced-Price Meal Application. For a list of CEP campuses click [here](#).

ATENCIÓN: Para información sobre el P-EBT o sobre la solicitud de comidas gratis o a precios reducidos, llame a la oficina de servicio (210) 397-4517 o envía por correo a free-reduced@nisd.net.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can receive free or reduced-price meals?

Northside ISD announced its policy that this school year, healthy meals will be offered every school day to **All Students at No Cost**. Typically, a student's household must meet income eligibility requirements to qualify for free or reduced-price meals. However, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued guidance that allows schools to offer meals to all students at no cost for the 2021-2022 school year. Child Nutrition Central Office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed upon request.

2. How can I obtain a Free & Reduced-Price Meal application?

Applications are available for parent or guardian pickup beginning July 1 at the Free & Reduced Office at 7520 Mainland Drive, San Antonio, TX 78250. Hours are 7 AM to 3:30 PM (Monday – Friday). Applications may be turned in at the Free & Reduced Office, left at the courtesy drop box or mailed to this address.

Free & Reduced-Price Meal Applications are available in other languages upon request.

3. Can I apply online? Save Time...Apply Online!

Yes, and highly encouraged! Free and Reduced-Price Meal applications will be available online at <https://www.schoolcafe.com/> beginning **August 11th**. You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit <https://schoolcafe.com/> or contact Child Nutrition at (210) 397-4517 if you have any questions about the online application.

4. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?

No. You should use one Free & Reduced-Price Meal 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.

5. Will the information I provide be verified?

Yes. Your eligibility may be verified at any time during the school year. School officials may ask you to send written evidence which shows that your child(ren) qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. The information you provide will be used to decide if your child(ren) is/are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

6. When should I submit a Free & Reduced-Price Meal application?

You may submit a Free & Reduced-Price Meal application at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but experience a decrease in household income, an increase in household size, become unemployed or receive food stamps or TANF, you may complete an application at that time. Households interested in this benefit must apply for the program every school year.

7. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out a new one?

Yes, a new application must be completed each year to determine eligibility to receive potential P-EBT Benefits.

8. How long does it take to process an application?

The application may take up to 10 working days to be processed once it reaches the Free & Reduced office. After the process is complete, you should receive a notification letter by mail. If you do not receive a letter, you may contact the Free & Reduced office at (210) 397-4517.

9. Who can I contact if I have questions about P-EBT or the Free and Reduced-Price meal application?

You may contact the Child Nutrition Free & Reduced office at (210) 397-4517 or free-reduced@nisd.net.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

More Than a School Meal Application!

Submitting your application for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) can do more than just provide access to free and reduced-price meals. Families must meet eligibility criteria for each program listed. Additional applications may still be needed to secure benefits.

School Meal Application



School Funding

May provide additional funding for state and federal programs and services at your school.



Athletics

May result in free or discounted fees to participate in activities.



Internet Access

May qualify you for discounted rates on internet services.

Turn in your meal application today to take advantage of additional benefits while also helping your school!



P-EBT

Determines eligibility to receive Pandemic EBT benefits.



Academic Tests

May provide reduced registration fees for AP, SAT, and/or ACT tests.



College Application Fees

May qualify you for discounted rates associated with college applications.



School Meals

Establishes eligibility for free or reduced prices on delicious and nutritious meals.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Fraud Hotline: 1-866-5-FRAUD-4 or 1-866-537-2834 | P.O. Box 12847 | Austin, TX 78711
Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL | For the hearing impaired: (800) 735-2989 (TTY)



Food and Nutrition Division
National School Lunch Program

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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www.SquareMeals.org

¡Mucho más que una solicitud de comida escolar!

Su solicitud para el Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares (NSLP) le ofrece más que un simple acceso a comidas gratuitas y de precio reducido. Las familias deben cumplir con criterios de elegibilidad para cada programa. Es posible que se necesiten aplicaciones adicionales para obtener beneficios.

Solicitud de comidas escolares

Fondos escolares

Puede proporcionar financiación adicional para programas y servicios estatales y federales en su escuela.

Atletismo

Puede dar lugar inscripción gratuita o tarifas con descuento para participar en actividades.

Acceso a Internet

Puede dar derecho a tarifas con descuento para servicios de Internet.

Entregue hoy mismo su solicitud de comidas para aprovechar las ventajas adicionales y, al mismo tiempo, ayudar a su escuela.

P-EBT

Determina la elegibilidad para recibir beneficios EBT de la pandemia.

Pruebas académicas

Puede ofrecer tarifas de inscripción reducidas para los exámenes AP, SAT y/o ACT.

Honorarios de solicitud para entrar en la universidad

Puede calificar para un descuento en las tarifas de solicitud de ingreso a la universidad.

Comidas escolares

Ofrece la posibilidad de comidas deliciosas y nutritivas gratuitas o de precio reducido.



DEPARTAMENTO DE AGRICULTURA DE TEXAS
COMISIONADO SID MILLER

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Food and Nutrition Division
Nutrition Assistance Programs

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