|  |
| --- |
| **Apply for Free or Reduced School Meals** |
| **Description** | **Detailed Description** |
| Free and reduced-price meals are available to eligible public school students.  | The Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals should be filled out and returned to the school to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals. Eligibility is based on the household size and monthly gross income. Full-price lunch is $1.50. Reduced lunch is $0.25.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Frequently Asked Questions** |
| **Sub-Topic** | **Details** |
| Eligibility for Children of Parents with no Social Security Number  | Children of parents who do not have a social security number are eligible for free and reduced price meals. Parents should complete the application for school meals, and in the space for a social security number, be sure to write the word NONE.  |
| Eligibility for Families Receiving Food Stamps or ADF/TANF  | The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance will send you a Direct Certification letter. When you take or mail this letter to your child's school, your household will be eligible for free school meals. However, if you do not get a Direct Certification Letter in the mail, you should complete the Application for Free and Reduced - Price School Meals, giving your Food Stamp or TANF case number. Your child will then be eligible for free breakfast or lunch at school.  |
| General Eligibility  | Eligibility is determined by the family’s income. If the family’s income is: • At or below 130 percent of the poverty level, the child is eligible for free meals • Between 130 and 185 percent of the poverty level, the child is eligible for reduced-price meals • Over 185 percent of the poverty level, the child is not eligible and must pay full price  |
| How to Get an Application  | All schools send the application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals to parents at the beginning of each school year. Parents may also contact the school's general office for an extra copy or download the application at www.opt-osfns.org/osfns.  |
| Menu Information  | For information on school meals, calendars, news, regulations, allergy policy and food safety, see the DOE website at http://www.opt-osfns.org/osfns/  |