

Columbia – Brazoria ISD

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Columbia – Brazoria ISD offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.25; lunch costs \$3.20 at the Junior High and High School. The Elementary School cost for Lunch is \$2.95. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals.** Reduced-price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. If you received a notification letter that a child is directly certified for free or reduced-price meals, do not complete an application. Let the school know if any children in the household attending school are not listed in the letter.

The questions and answers that follow and attached directions provide additional information on how to complete the application. Complete only one application for all the students in the household and return the completed application to Cafeteria Manager your Child's School or CBISD Child Nutrition Office. If you have questions about applying for free or reduced-price meals, contact Cynthia King (979-799-1842) or cynthia.king@cbisd.com.

1. Who Can Get Free Meals?

- **Income**—Children can get free or reduced-price meals if a household's gross income is within the limits described in the *Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines*.
- **Special Assistance Program Participants**—Children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program for Households on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), are eligible for free meals.
- **Foster**—Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- **Head Start or Early Head Start**—Children participating in these programs are eligible for free meals.
- **Homeless, Runaway, and Migrant**—Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told about a child's status as homeless, runaway, or migrant or you feel a child may qualify for one of these programs, please call or email Katrina Hogan (979-345-5147 ext. 5003).
- **WIC Recipient**—Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

2. **What If I Disagree with the School's Decision About My Application?** Talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Cynthia King CBISD CN Director (979-799-1842).

3. **My Child's Application Was Approved Last Year. Do I Need to Fill Out A New One?** Yes. An application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. Send in a new application unless the school has told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

4. **If I Don't Qualify Now, May I Apply Later?** Yes. Apply at any time during the school year. A child with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

5. **What If My Income Is Not Always the Same?** List the amount normally received. If a household member lost a job or had hours/wages reduced, use current income.

6. **We Are in The Military. Do We Report Our Income Differently?** Basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. Any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments count as income. If housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include the housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is excluded from income.

7. **May I Apply If Someone in My Household Is Not a U.S. Citizen?** Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.

8. **Will Application Information Be Checked?** Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the reported household income.

9. **My Family Needs More Help. Are There Other Programs We Might Apply For?** To find out how to apply for other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or 2-1-1.

10. **Can I Apply Online?** Yes! The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit cbisd.com to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact [Cynthia King CBISD CN Director (979-799-1842) cynthia.king@cbisd.co] if you have questions about the online application.

If you have other questions or need help, call Cynthia King CBISD CN Director at (979-799-1842).

Sincerely,

Cynthia King

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf> from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Part A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of an Adult Household Member

- Provide the last four digits of the Social Security number (SSN) of an adult in the household or check the box for no SSN. A social security number is not required to apply for these programs.

Part B. Income for All Adult Household Members (including yourself)

- Record the first and last name of each adult in the household in the space provided.
 - If there are more adults in the household than available spaces, use the back of the application.
 - Include all adults living in the household that share income and expenses, even if the adult is not related to anyone in the household and does not receive any income. Do not include adults that are not supported by the household's income and do not contribute income to the household.
- Record the amount of income the adult receives under the type of income: Working Earnings; Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony; Pensions/ Retirement/Social Security/Supplemental Security Income (SSI); and All Other.
 - Report all amounts in gross income only and in whole dollars. Gross income is the total income received before taxes or deductions. Ensure that the income reported has not been reduced by the amounts deducted for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other purpose. The Adult Income Information Box (next page) provides additional information on the types of income that need to be reported. Foster children may be included as a member of the household or may be included on a separate application.
 - Write a 0 in any field where there is no income to report. If you write 0 or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials have known or available information that the household income was reported incorrectly, the application will be verified for cause.
 - Select how often each type of income is received (frequency).
W = Weekly, E = Every 2 Weeks, T = Twice per Month, M = Monthly, A = Annually

Adult Income Information
<u>Earnings from Work</u>
General Types of Income
▪ Salary, wages, cash bonuses
▪ Strike benefits
U.S. Military
▪ Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing
▪ Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing allowances)
Self-Employed Worker
▪ Net income from self-employment (farm or business)—calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of the business from its gross receipts or revenue.
<u>Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony</u>
(Do not report the value of any cash value public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart.)
▪ Alimony payments
▪ Cash assistance from State or local government
▪ Child support payments from court-ordered child support or alimony decree should be reported here. Informal but regular payments should be reported as <i>other</i> income in the next part.
▪ Unemployment benefits
▪ Worker's compensation
<u>Pensions/Retirement/ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</u>
▪ Annuities
▪ Income from trusts or estates
▪ Private Pensions or disability
▪ Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
▪ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
▪ Veteran's benefits
All Other Income

Part C. Income for Children in the Household

- Record total income **for all children in the household who receive regular income** by how often income is received (frequency). *The Child Income Information Box (below) provides additional information on the types of income that needs to be reported for children in the household.*
- Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.
Annual Income Conversion: weekly x 52, every two weeks x 26, twice a month x 24, monthly x 12.

Child Income Information
<u>Earnings from Work</u>
For Example: A child has a job where she or he earns a salary or wages.
<u>Social Security, Disability Payments</u>
For Example: A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits.
<u>Social Security, Survivor's Benefits</u>
For Example: A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives social security benefits.
<u>Income from any other source</u>

Part D. Total Household Members

- Record the total number of children and adults in the household in the appropriate box. This number **MUST** be equal to the number of household members listed in Step 1 and Step 3. It is very important to list all household members as the size of the household determines the household eligibility.

Step 4: Provide Contact Information and Adult Signature

- Read the certification statement.

- Write your current address and contact information in the space provided. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you. *If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals.*
- Print the name of the adult signing the form, sign the form, and record today's date in the appropriate spaces.
- All applications must be signed by an adult household member. *By signing the application, the household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.*

MUTLI-USE APPLICATION – Step 5 (Optional): Sharing Information with Other Programs

- *Completing this section will not change whether your children are eligible for free and reduced-price meals.*
- To provide your permission to share household information provided on the application with other programs, you **MUST** select/circle the program(s) or benefit(s) from the list.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL APPLICATION – Step 5 (Optional): Race and Ethnicity

- *Completing this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.*
- Select the child's ethnicity (select only one option)
- Select the child's race (select all that apply)

Return the Application

- Return the application to P.O.Box 158 West Columbia , Texas 77468, fax no.979-798-5120, and/or your child's school.

Household Size	Income Eligibility Guidelines									
	Annual		Monthly		Twice-Monthly		Bi-Weekly		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$18,954	\$26,973	\$1,580	\$2,248	\$790	\$1,124	\$729	\$1,038	\$365	\$519
2	\$25,636	\$36,482	\$2,137	\$3,041	\$1,069	\$1,521	\$986	\$1,404	\$493	\$702
3	\$32,318	\$45,991	\$2,694	\$3,833	\$1,347	\$1,917	\$1,243	\$1,769	\$622	\$885
4	\$39,000	\$55,500	\$3,250	\$4,625	\$1,625	\$2,313	\$1,500	\$2,135	\$750	\$1,068
5	\$45,682	\$65,009	\$3,807	\$5,418	\$1,904	\$2,709	\$1,757	\$2,501	\$879	\$1,251
6	\$52,364	\$74,518	\$4,364	\$6,210	\$2,182	\$3,105	\$2,014	\$2,867	\$1,007	\$1,434
7	\$59,046	\$84,027	\$4,921	\$7,003	\$2,461	\$3,502	\$2,271	\$3,232	\$1,136	\$1,616
8	\$65,728	\$93,536	\$5,478	\$7,795	\$2,739	\$3,898	\$2,528	\$3,598	\$1,264	\$1,799
For each add. person, add	+\$6,682	+\$9,509	+\$557	+\$793	+\$279	+\$397	+\$257	+\$366	+\$129	+\$183

The income eligibility guidelines (right) are based on 130% (free) and 185% (reduced) of the federal poverty guidelines and are effective July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

Return to:
 or Apply Online:

STEP 1 List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12

If more spaces are needed, use the Additional Names section on the back.

Definition of Household Member: "Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related." Children in Foster Care, Head Start, and children who meet the definition of Homeless, Migrant, or Runaway are eligible for free meals. Read the directions for more information.	Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student?		Grade	Check any that apply							
				Yes	No		Head Start	Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway					
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 2 Do any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR?

If NO → Go to STEP 3 If YES → Write the Eligibility Determination Group (EDG, n/a for FDIPIR) number here, then go to STEP 4 (do not complete STEP 3). EDG Number

STEP 3 Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'YES' to STEP 2)

A. Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of an Adult Household Member XXX-XX- Check if no SSN

B. Income for Adult Household Members (including yourself)
 List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income (before taxes) for each source in whole dollars (no cents) only. Report the frequency by income type: W=Weekly, E=Every 2 Weeks, M=Monthly, A=Annually. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. *If more spaces are needed, use the Additional Names section on the back.*

Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last)	Work Earnings	Frequency	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency	Pensions/Retirement/ Social Security/SSI/ VA Benefits/All Other	Frequency	Total Child Income							
							W	E	T	M	A			
	\$	W	\$	W	\$	W								
	\$	E	\$	E	\$	E								
	\$	T	\$	T	\$	T								
	\$	M	\$	M	\$	M								
	\$	A	\$	A	\$	A								

C. Income for Children in the Household
 Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by all Child Household Members listed in STEP 1 here. *If applicable, include income from additional children listed on back. Income frequency conversion key provided on back.*

Total Child Income \$ W E T M A

STEP 4 Contact information and adult signature.

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Street address (if available) Apt # City State Zip code Daytime phone and email (optional)

Printed name of adult signing the form Signature of adult Today's date June 12, 2023

ADDITIONAL NAMES

List any additional child household members not listed in STEP 1.

Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student?	Grade	Check any that apply
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Head Start <input type="checkbox"/> Foster Child <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless, Migrant, Runaway <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>		
			<input type="checkbox"/>		

List any additional adult household members not listed in STEP 3. Report the frequency by income type: W=Weekly, E=Every 2 Weeks, T=Twice per Month, M=Monthly, A=Annually

Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last)	Work Earnings					Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony					Pensions/Retirement/ Social Security/SSI/ VA Benefits/All Other				
	W	E	T	M	A	W	E	T	M	A	W	E	T	M	A
	\$					\$					\$				
	\$					\$					\$				
	\$					\$					\$				

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, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf> 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. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DO NOT COMPLETE. This section for school use only.

Annual Income Conversion: weekly x 52, every two weeks x 26, twice a month x 24, monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.

Household Size	Total Income	Frequency	Date Received	Date Withdrawn
		W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/>		
Categorical Determination	Eligibility	Free <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/>	Reviewing/Determining Official's Signature	Date
			Confirming Official's Signature	Date