

# Rocklin Unified School District

## Nutrition Services Department

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Charles Douglas - Director

We shared with you last week the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted school districts across the country the same flexibility in the school meals program that we had over the summer.

From now through the end of the calendar year, December 31, 2020, we can serve meals at no charge to all children 18 years and younger, regardless of income level or school attending. Meals can be picked up at 15 school locations in the District.

Although the meals are free, we do not know if the extension will be granted for the entire school year. **Households who were eligible for free & reduced meals will still need to complete a new meal application by September 23, 2020. If not, the student's status will revert to full paid.** We also need this information in order for our district to receive critical funding for important programs that provide additional resources for students with economic needs.

Paper copies of the application can be picked up at the district office, the nutrition services office (4090 Del Mar Avenue, Rocklin, CA 95677) and the individual school sites. You can also complete the form (preferred method) online at:

<https://www.nlappscloud.com/District.aspx>

## FAQs – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS!

**If my student does not want to participate in the Program, should I still apply if we are eligible?**

Yes. The additional education funding is based on the number of eligible students signed up for the Program. It is not based on how often the student uses the Program.

**Am I required to fill out an application each school year and if so, is there a cut off date?**

Yes. A new application is required each school year with current household and income information. Students are on a 30 school day grace period at the prior year's eligibility until a new application is received. Applications are also accepted any time during the school year; however, if completed by October 30th and deemed eligible, it will bring in additional funding to the School District for educational programs.

**Will my child be identified as Free or Reduced-Price to fellow students or school staff?**

No. Eligibility status is confidential and is known only to Nutrition Services staff. Every student has a computerized meal account and they access it the same way as full price students. Elementary level students come by class and say their first and last name. Secondary level students enter their student ID number on a pin pad and say their first and last name.

**Does my family applying for the Program take away from another family qualifying?**

No. There is no limit to the number of students in the Program. Any family that meets the qualifications should apply even if the student is only in school for a partial day (transitional kindergartners/kindergartners/seniors), or chooses not to participate daily, because the District still receives the additional funding for education purposes.

**Can transitional kindergarten/kindergarten students apply? Participate?**

Yes. Your transitional kindergarten and kindergarten student can participate in the breakfast program at participating schools. Your extended day transitional kindergarten and kindergarten student can also participate in the lunch program, which is part of their regular school day. If your student is a regular day kindergartner they can participate if you accompany them to the cafeteria while they eat lunch. If you choose not to participate, the School District will still receive additional educational funding.

**My student is a senior and leaves school before lunch. Should we still apply?**

Yes. Your student can still participate in the lunch program. They can also participate in the breakfast program at both high schools, which is served for one half hour before school or at morning Nutrition Break. Even if he/she chooses not to participate in the Program, the School District will still receive additional educational funding.

**Do we need to fill out a new application if our income changes during the school year?**

No. Applications are approved for the entire school year. If there are changes it is not necessary to fill out a new one, however if you wish to change your eligibility status, you can complete a new application at any time.

**Who qualifies for the Program?**

Foster and Kinship court placement students

Families in transitional housing due to economic need - McKinney Vento

Families receiving CalFresh(FS), CalWorks, Kin-Gap and FDPIR

Households meeting the current year's income eligibility guidelines posted on the application & our website.