



Free Meals for All Students

What's happening with the school meal program?





USDA Extends Free Meals for Kids

- Effective immediately, **ALL** students are eligible to receive **FREE** lunch regardless of socioeconomic status or household income
- The free meals are the result of a nationwide emergency waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The program will run through December 31, 2020 or until funding runs out (whichever occurs first). At that time, lunch meals will return to the normal price.



What does this mean?

- Students can receive 1 FREE lunch per school day
- The meal package offered will meet the reimbursable meal requirements
- Meals must meet the existing USDA guidelines in order to be free.
- A la carte items, such as extra entrees, extra milk, extra side servings, snacks and drinks will still be available for purchase at an additional charge.



What happens to money on my child's account?

- Any charges for a reimbursable meal purchased since the start of school will be refunded to the student's account
- There will be no cash refunds
- Any balances on the accounts will remain on the account and can be used to purchase snacks, ala carte items or for future meals when the payment holiday has ended



Completing a free/reduced meal application

- This program is only in effect until December 31, 2020, or until USDA waiver funds run out. At that time, student eligibility status will revert back to either paid, free or reduced
- Please continue to complete applications if you believe you may be eligible. The eligibility list also determines other sources of funding for the district such as Title I, State Aid and E-Rate



Questions

- Any questions about meals, please contact Leah Hummer at
 - cafemanager@dvrhs.org
 - 908.996.2132 ext. 6811
- Any questions about free and reduced lunch applications, please contact Carla Abert at
 - carlaabert@dvrhs.org
 - 908.996.2132 ext.

Thank

you

