

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS 2019-20

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Pleasant Hill School District **offers healthy meals every school day.**

	Elementary	High School
Breakfast	\$1.60	\$1.85
Lunch	\$2.75	\$3.00

Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$0.00 for breakfast and \$0.00 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, TANF or FDPIR, are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household’s income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2019-2020			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	23,107	1,926	445
2	31,284	2,607	602
3	39,461	3,289	759
4	47,638	3,970	917
5	55,815	4,652	1,074
6	63,992	5,333	1,231
7	72,169	6,015	1,388
8	80,346	6,696	1,546
Each additional Person	8,177	682	158

- ### 2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY?
- Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your

household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **Devery Stoneberg, 541-736-0400, dstoneberg@pleasanthill.k12.or.us** .

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals 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. Return the completed application to:

Elementary School -- Attn: Devery Stoneberg

Pleasant Hill Elementary, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-736-0400

Middle and High School -- Attn: Randy Fisher

Pleasant Hill High School, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-747-4541.

District Office -- Attn: Becky Johnson

Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-736-0799

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Becky Johnson, Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-736-0799, bjohnson@pleasanthill.k12.or.us** immediately.
5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! 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 ODE website www.ode.state.or.us/apps/frlapp to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact **Becky Johnson, Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-736-0799, bjohnson@pleasanthill.k12.or.us** if you have any questions about the online application.
6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year, through October 16. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals your child will be charged the full price for meals.
7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children 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.

10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Scott Linenberger, Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-746-9646,** slinenberger@pleasanthill.k12.or.us.
11. 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.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact **Becky Johnson, Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, 541-736-0799,** bjohnson@pleasanthill.k12.or.us to receive a second application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 2-1-1- or 1-800-SAFENET (723-3638). For food assistance call 1-866-348-6479 (1-866-3-HUNGRY). In the summer time, Text "FOOD" to 877877 or visit www.Summerfoodoregon.org for free summer meal options in your area.

If you have other questions or need help, call **541-736-0799**.

Sincerely,

Becky Johnson
Pleasant Hill School District #1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING

For Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits OR Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Households, do the following:

Part 1: Complete Household information

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark the checkbox, if they are a formally placed foster child in the family.

Part 3: Give the name of the person in the household with benefits and their case number, (SNAP) benefits (A11-11-1111) or TANF (AA111 or AAA111)

Part 4: Skip this part.

Part 5: Sign the form. A Social Security Number is not necessary.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

If you are applying for a FOSTER CHILD, follow these instructions:

Part 1: Complete Household information

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark the checkbox, if they are a formally placed foster child in the family

Part 3: Skip this part

Part 4: Skip this part

Part 5: Sign the form. A Social Security Number is not necessary

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

OR Complete a household application for the entire household including the foster child following instructions for "All Other Households"

ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, including WIC households, follow these instructions:

Part 1: Complete Household information.

Part 2: List child(ren)'s name, school, grade, birthday and mark if child is foster.

Part 3: Skip this part.

Part 4: Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

Column 1–Name: List the first and last name of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself, those children living with you but not attending school and children in school receiving regular income. Do not repeat children listed in part 2 unless they receive regular income. Attach another sheet of paper if you need to.

Column 2 –Gross Monthly Income. Next to each person's name, list each type of income received last month. For example, *Monthly Income:* List the **gross income** each person earned from work. This is not the same as take-home pay. **Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions.** The amount should be listed on your pay stub, or your boss can tell you. If your income is paid weekly, every 2 weeks or twice a month, follow the instructions on the back of the application.

Column 3 - List the amount each person got last month from welfare, child support, alimony.

Column 4 – List the amount each person got last month from pensions, retirement, Social Security.

Column 5 – List the amount each person got last month from Worker's Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), disability benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and ANY OTHER INCOME.

Report net income for self-owned business, farm, or rental income. Next to the amount, write how often the person got it. If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative do not include this housing allowance.

Part 5: An adult household member must sign the form and list the last four (4) numbers of his or her Social Security Number, or mark the box if he or she doesn't have one.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose to.

Part 7: Answer this question if you choose to.

Pleasant Hill School District
Return to: 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455

NOTICE:

- If you received an ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION – FREE MEALS from the school district **do not** complete this application.
- See **Application Instructions** on back of form.
- * = Required for all applications; ** = Required for Income applications; *** = Required for SNAP/TANF

1 HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION*: Print name of person completing this application (Last name, First name) _____
 Home Phone or Cell Phone or Work (Circle One) _____
 Name Print _____
 Email address _____
 Mailing Address – Apt # _____
 City State Zip _____
 ➔ Number living in this household _____
 (Write names of **all** household members on part 2 and/or part 4 of this form)

2 STUDENT INFORMATION*

Child's Name (Legal Last name, First name)	School	Grade (optional)	Birth Date (optional)	Check if Foster Child
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

3 BENEFITS If any member of your household receives SNAP or TANF, provide the name and case number of the member receiving benefits
 Name*** _____ SNAP Case Number*** _____
 _____ TANF _____ Go to Part 5 below
Does this household receive FDIPIR (Food Distribution on Indian Reservations) Yes (Go Part 5 and complete)

4 HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS & GROSS MONTHLY INCOME ** – if not monthly, see back for conversions

Column 1 List all household members, including children not attending school, and income. Do not include students listed in part 2, unless they receive regular income. (Last name, first name)	Column 2 MONTHLY INCOME (Total earnings & wages before deductions)	Column 3 MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT, WELFARE, ALIMONY RECEIVED	Column 4 MONTHLY PENSIONS, SOCIAL SECURITY, RETIREMENT	Column 5 OTHER MONTHLY INCOME -Including unemployment and workers comp.	Column 6 Check if No Income
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

5 SIGNATURE, DATE and Last four numbers of SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (Adult must sign)
 I certify (promise) that all of the information on this application is true (correct) and that all income is reported. I understand that the school will get Federal funds based on the information I give. I understand that school officials may verify (check) the information. I understand that if I give purposely false information, my children may lose meal benefits and I may be prosecuted.
Signature of Adult Household Member* _____ **Date Signed*** _____ **Social Security Number**** _____
 X _____ Month/day/year XXX-XX - _____ I do not have a Social Security Number.**

6 RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP (OPTIONAL)
Mark one ethnic identity:
 Hispanic or Latino
 Not Hispanic or Latino
Mark one or more racial identities:
 Asian
 American Indian & Alaskan Native
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 Black or African American
 White, not of Hispanic origin
 Other
 I prefer all written correspondence in Spanish Russian Other _____

7 I do not want my information shared with State children's health insurance programs. Sign here: _____
 I have a child (or children) who does not have any kind of health coverage – neither private health insurance nor Oregon Health Plan/Healthy Kids. I am interested in free or reduced cost health coverage for at least one of my children. Yes No

SCHOOL USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Total Income: _____ Number in household: _____ Date Withdrawn: _____
 Free based on:
 SNAP/TANF/FDIPIR
 Foster child categorical
 household income
 Reduced based on:
 household income
 Denied – Reason:
 income too high
 incomplete application
 Determining Official's Signature : _____ Date _____

Application Instructions

- If your household receives **SNAP, TANF or FDPIR**, complete parts 1, 2, 3 and 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.
 - If you do not receive these benefits and your **income** is below the guidelines, complete parts 1, 2, 4, 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.
 - If you are a household with a **FOSTER CHILD**, complete parts 1, 2, 4, and 5; parts 6 and 7 are optional.
- Any income fields left blank will be counted as zeros. Please be careful that you meant to leave income fields blank.*

DETERMINING MONTHLY INCOME FOR EARNINGS & WAGES

Monthly income for all household members must be reported in Part 4 of this application. Income means any money regularly received from work, child support, alimony, pensions, retirements, social security or any other source. Exclude student/school loans.

Household members who are not paid monthly should change earnings into monthly income by doing the following:

Household members who are paid every week: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 52. Then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are paid every 2 weeks: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 26. Then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are paid twice a month: Multiply total earnings and wages for one pay period, before deductions, by 24 then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the total monthly income.

Household members who are seasonal workers or work less than 12 months: Project annual rate of income to accurately represent actual circumstances then divide by 12. The resulting amount is the projected monthly income.

Note: Money received from a business or farm owned by you should be reported as "net income." *Net Income is defined as the total income left after business and farm operating expenses are subtracted from gross receipts.*

PRIVACY STATEMENT - SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS and OTHER INFORMATION

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 4 digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last 4 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. We may share the information on this form with Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), unless you tell us not to. The information, if disclosed, will only be used to identify eligible children and seek to enroll them in Medicaid or SCHIP.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, 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.

Pleasant Hill School District
SHARING FREE OR REDUCED PRICE INFORMATION
WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The information you give on the Confidential Application for Free or Reduced Price Meal is only used to determine your student(s) eligibility for Free or Reduced Price meals. **The information may also be used to determine your student(s) eligibility to receive benefits for other programs. For the following programs we must have your permission to share your information.**

Sending in this form will not change whether your student(s) get free or reduced meals.

Signing this waiver is NOT A REQUIREMENT for participation in any school nutrition program.

No! I DO NOT want information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application shared with any of the programs listed below.

If you checked "No", stop here. You do not have to complete or send in this form. Your information will not be shared.

Yes! I DO want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with: (Mark each program to which you want information released.)

- Educational/school related program fee waiver or reduction
- Athletic programs fee reduction
- Administrative school programs fee waiver or reduction
- Medical/dental services fee waiver/reduction

If you marked any or all of the programs listed above, fill out the form below. I understand that I am releasing information (student's name, F/R status, and/or contact information) to only the programs I have marked. I certify that I am the parent/legal guardian of the child(ren) for whom application is being made.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

For more information, call 541-746-9646

Return this form to: Pleasant Hill School District, 36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455

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