

PUBLIC RELEASE

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Shearwater Education Foundation today announced its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household Size	Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals			Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$14,079	\$1,174	\$271	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$386
2	18,941	1,579	365	26,955	2,247	519
3	23,803	1,984	458	33,874	2,823	652
4	28,665	2,389	552	40,793	3,400	785
5	33,527	2,794	645	47,712	3,976	918
6	38,389	3,200	739	54,631	4,553	1,051
7	43,251	3,605	832	61,550	5,130	1,184
8	48,113	4,010	926	68,469	5,706	1,317
Each add'l member	+4,862	+406	+94	+6,919	+577	+134

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the principal's office in each school. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/Temporary Assistance case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. A foster child is considered a family of one and only personal use income is counted to determine eligibility.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, the Business Manager will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis or he may make a request either orally or in writing to the President/CEO whose

address is: 4470 Finney Ave. St. Louis, MO 63113 for a hearing to appeal the decision.

Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

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