



Welcome To Our Lunch Program

Please review the attached informational packet regarding the Saint Christine School Lunch Program.

If your family qualifies for a free or reduced price lunch, please complete the forms in this packet and return them to the school office as soon as possible. Forms only need to be completed by the families that would qualify for free or reduced lunches. An Income Eligibility Guidelines' Chart is included to help families determine eligibility.

SAINT CHRISTINE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM 2017-2018

On September 5, 2017 the school lunch program will begin.

REDUCED/FREE LUNCH PROGRAM:

- All eligible families must fill out new applications to determine 2017-2018 eligibility.
- 2016-2017 students on reduced/free lunches continue to receive reduced/free lunches based on last year/s status until **October 1st**.
- New students who may be eligible for reduced/free lunches for 2017-2018 **MUST** pay for their lunches (beginning the week of September 5) until eligibility has been determined and verified.
- New students (based on their eligibility) will be entitled to receive reduced/free lunches beginning October 1, 2017.

NOTES TO PARENTS ABOUT THE LUNCH PROGRAM:

- Monthly lunch menus will be sent home at the beginning of every month. The lunch menu is also posted on our school's website for your convenience.
- Lunch Tickets will be offered to the students on a weekly basis. Lunch Tickets will be distributed every **MONDAY**. If a holiday falls on a Monday, forms will be sent home on Tuesday. Order forms and money are to be returned on **WEDNESDAYS** by **10:00am**. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Orders placed are for the upcoming week.

Example for upcoming week:

Order form sent home Monday, August 28

Order form/money returned Wednesday, August 30

Ordering for the week of September 5

- Kindly keep in mind that no refunds will be given if a student is absent from school. However, refunds will be issued if school is canceled.

PRICES:

Lunches (milk included)	\$3.75
Milk purchased separately	\$0.55

***Kindly direct all lunch program questions to Mrs. Michelle Lydic (330) 792.0438.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **St. Christine School** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **[N/A]**; lunch costs **[\$3.75]**. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.** Reduced price is **[N/A]** for breakfast and **[\$.40]** 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 the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) or Ohio Works First (OWF) 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 2017-2018			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$22,311	\$1,860	\$430
2	30,044	2,504	578
3	37,777	3,149	727
4	45,510	3,793	876
5	53,243	4,437	1,024
6	60,976	5,082	1,173
7	68,709	5,726	1,322
8	76,442	6,371	1,471
Each additional person:	7,733	645	149

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 **St. Christine School to see if they qualify.**
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: Mrs. Michelle Lydic, 3125 S. Schenley Ave. Youngstown OH 44511 (330) 792-0438.*
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 Mrs. Michelle Lydic (330) 792-0438 immediately.*

5. 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 **September 30, 2017**. 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.
6. 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.
7. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
8. 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.
9. 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: **Mr. Walter Carpenter, Principal, 3125 S. Schenley Ave., Youngstown, OH 44511 (330) 792-4544**.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. 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 **Mrs. Michelle Lydic, 3125 S. Schenley Ave., Youngstown, OH 44511 to receive a second application**.
15. Why am I being asked about giving my consent for an instructional fee waiver? Ohio public schools are required to waive the school instructional fees for children who qualify for free meal benefits. School Food Service personnel must have parent consent to share student meal application if your child(ren) qualify for a fee waiver. If you agree to allow your child(ren)'s meal application to be shared with school officials to see if he/she/they qualifies for a fee waiver then check "yes" in part 5. If you do not wish for that information to be shared, then check "no" in part 5. Answering no to this question will mean your child will not be able to be considered for a fee waiver. Answering this question either way will not change whether your child(ren) will get free or reduced price meals.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for Ohio SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 877-852-0010.

If you have other questions or need help, call **(330) 792-0438**

Sincerely,