



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

News Release

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Free or Reduced-Price Meals Help Students Exceed in School

Basic school supplies and a restful night of sleep help students to be more successful in the classroom. But did you know eating a nutritious breakfast and lunch is just as important to a student's learning?

Students need a healthy breakfast and lunch to do their best in class. So schools serve up nutritionally-balanced meals, as part of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program.

Reduced-price or free meals may be offered to your child at school, if you:

- are eligible for unemployment benefits;
- earn at or below current Income Eligibility Guidelines;

Your child automatically qualifies for free meals at school, if you:

- receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits;
- receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Cash Assistance benefits

Please contact your child's school to fill out an application for reduced-price or free meals. The school will process your application and issue an eligibility determination. While most applications are submitted at the beginning of each school year, for this particular request, you may apply any time throughout the school year.

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