

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE FOOD SERVICES

Bath County Public Schools will provide free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches to students according to the terms of the National School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program.

The Nutrition and Wellness Director will determine student eligibility based on guidelines established by federal law. Eligible students will be provided nutritionally acceptable meals free or at a reduced cost if state and federal resources for school food programs are available.

The Nutrition and Wellness Director, under the direction of the Superintendent, will establish rules and procedures as needed to implement these regulations.

The criteria for determining a student's eligibility and the procedures for securing free and reduced-price meals will be publicly announced at the beginning of each school year and provided to parents of all children in attendance at Bath County Public Schools.

The forms necessary to determine eligibility shall be provided to all students and their parents/guardians. Additional copies will be available at the School Administration Office and at each school office.

Each principal shall assign a staff member the responsibility of assisting any parent with the completion of the eligibility form if assistance is needed. The staff member shall not answer the questions for the parent, but may assist the parent with the comprehension of the question.

If an application for free and reduced-price meals is denied, parents/guardians may appeal this decision to the Division Superintendent and a hearing will be conducted under the hearing procedure described in the National School Lunch Act, as amended. When a household appeals a reduction or termination of benefits within the 10 calendar day advance notice period, Bath County Public Schools must continue to provide the benefits for which the child was originally approved, until a final determination is made.

The students who participate in the free or reduced-cost meals programs will not be overtly identified, distinguished, or served differently than other students.

No information about the free or reduced-cost status for a student may be shared with other staff members without direct approval from the Superintendent or designee and without an expressed educational purpose such as identification of economic status for Standards of Learning assessments and subgroup designations.

Adopted: May 2, 2017
