

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT EACH YEAR

Part 1. ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS. PRINT the full legal names of all household members (no nicknames). SS#, is optional in Part 1.

Table with 7 columns: NAMES OF ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, SCHOOL, GRADE, FOSTER CHILD, CHECK IF NO INCOME, SOCIAL SECURITY #, PART 2. BENEFITS. Rows 1-8.

PART 3. If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway check the box and contact your school, homeless liaison, migrant coordinator at 985-281-2121 or mhopkins@bogalusiaschools.org

Part 4. Total Household Gross Income - You must tell us how much and how often (Fill out this part only if you don't get SNAP, FITAP or FDPIR). Complete this part and Part 5. List everyone in your household INCLUDING children listed above (related or unrelated), if they receive any income.

Table with 6 columns: List only household members w/ income INCLUDING children, Gross Income and how often received Earnings from work before deductions, Monthly Welfare Child Support, Alimony, Pensions Retirement Social Security, SSI, VA, All Other Income, Check if No Income. Rows 1-6.

PART 5 - SIGNATURE & LAST 4 DIGITS OF SS#: ALL MUST COMPLETE - An adult household member must sign the application. If Part 4 is completed, the adult signing the form also must list the last 4 digits of his/her *SS# or mark "I do not have a SS #".

Signature and SS# fields: SIGNATURE OF ADULT HOUSEHOLD MEMBER, ADDRESS, CITY, DATE, HOME PHONE # CELL #, WORK PHONE.

Part 6. Choose one or more: Asian, White, Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Other. AND choose one ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino or Not Hispanic/Latino.

No-Cost Health Insurance from Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP): Most children getting free or reduced-price meals who do not have health insurance can get free health coverage from LaCHIP.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: This explains how we will use information you give us. 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 children for the free or reduced price meals.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with the Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

HOUSEHOLD SIZE MONTHLY INCOME [] SNAP [] HOMELESS [] FITAP DATE WITHDRAWN DETERMINING OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE DATE

LETTER TO HOUSEHOLDS (One application per household) 2011-2012

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Bogalusa City Schools' offer healthy meals every school day. PK-4 may buy **lunch** for .85, or reduced price for .40. 5-12 may buy **lunch** for \$1.10 or reduced price for .40. PK-4 may buy **breakfast** for .35 or reduced price for .30. 5-12 may buy **breakfast** for .50 or reduced price for .30. After school snacks are free to all students. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2011- 2012		
	YEARLY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY
1	\$ 20,147	\$ 1,679	\$ 388
2	27,214	2,268	524
3	34,281	2,857	660
4	41,348	3,446	796
5	48,415	4,035	932
6	55,482	4,624	1,067
7	62,549	5,213	1,203
8	69,616	5,802	1,339
For each additional member add:	+ 7,067	+ 589	+136

Here are answers to questions you may have about applying:

- 1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Complete an application to apply for free or reduced price meals. *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 your school site.
- 2. Who can get free meals?** All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP, FITAP, or FDPIR, can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Guidelines.
- 3. Can foster children get free meals?** Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income.
- 4. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Yes, children who meet the definitions of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail the homeless liaison, migrant coordinator Michelle Hopkins at 985-281-2121 or mhopkins@bogalusaschools.org to see if they qualify.
- 5. Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this application.
- 6. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced price meals?** Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call 281-2151 if you have any questions.
- 7. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another one?** Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
- 8. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
- 9. Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, and we may ask you to send written proof.
- 10. 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.
- 11. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?** You should talk to your school officials. You may also ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: (Louise Smith Superintendent, 1705 Sullivan Drive, Bogalusa, LA 70427, 985-281-2100 louisemsmith@bogalusaschool.org).
- 12. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- 13. Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children who live with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
- 14. What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount 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 lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 15. We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income?** If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. **However** if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- 16. My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is her combat pay counted as income?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
- 17. My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for?** To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 1-888-LAHELPU (1-888-524-3578).

If you have any other question or need help call 985-281-2151 or 985-281-2100. Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al telefono 281-2139. Si vous voundriez d'aide, contactez nous au numero 281-2139.

Sincerely,

Joannie Miller, Supervisor of Child Nutrition Programs, Bogalusa City Schools Child Nutrition Programs, 1705 Sullivan Dr., Bogalusa, La. 70427 (985) 281-2124

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