

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Child Nutrition Programs
Regional School District No. 17

PUBLIC RELEASE

Regional School District No. 17 today announced its policy for determining eligibility of children who may receive free or reduced price meals served under the National School Lunch Program.

Local school officials have adopted the following family size and income criteria for determining eligibility:

The following income guidelines will be used in Connecticut from **July 1, 2008** to **June 30, 2009** for determining eligibility of participants for free and reduced price meals and free milk in the Child Nutrition Programs.

To determine annual income:	If income is received:	Multiply by:
	Weekly	52
	Every Two Weeks	26
	Monthly	12
	If income is reported as <i>twice per month</i> , convert to annual income.	

Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals or free

FREE MEALS/MILK					REDUCED PRICE MEALS				
Number in Family	Annual Gross Income	Monthly Gross Income	Every Two Weeks Gross Income	Weekly Gross Income	Number in Family	Annual Gross Income	Monthly Gross Income	Every Two Weeks Gross Income	Weekly Gross Income
1	13,520	1,127	520	260	1	19,240	1,604	740	370
2	18,200	1,517	700	350	2	25,900	2,159	997	499
3	22,880	1,907	880	440	3	32,560	2,714	1,253	627
4	27,560	2,297	1,060	530	4	39,220	3,269	1,509	755
5	32,240	2,687	1,240	620	5	45,880	3,824	1,765	883
6	36,920	3,077	1,420	710	6	52,540	4,379	2,021	1,011
7	41,600	3,467	1,600	800	7	59,200	4,934	2,277	1,139
8	46,280	3,857	1,780	890	8	65,860	5,489	2,534	1,267
Each Add'l Family Member	+ 4680	+ 390	+ 180	+90	Each Add'l Family Member	+ 6,660	+ 555	+ 257	+ 129

milk. Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents. To apply for free or reduced price meals or

free milk, households should fill out the application and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office at each school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purposes of determining eligibility, and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Application forms for food stamp/TFA households require the child's name, the child's food stamp/TFA case number and the signature of an adult household member. Application forms for all other households require a statement of total household income, household size and names of all household members. The social security number of an adult household member must be included or a statement that the

household member does not possess one. The adult household member must also sign the application certifying that the information provided is correct. In certain cases, foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a family has a foster child living with them who is a **legal ward** of the State of Connecticut, that child is considered a family of one, and monthly personal income from the State must be reported.

Under the provisions of the policy for determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals, the

The Principal of each school
(Title of Determining Official)

will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis.

If he/she wishes to make a formal appeal, a request either orally or in writing, may be made to

Sharon Shettleworth, Director of Food Service, P.O. Box 568, Higganum, Ct. 06441 (860) 345-4534
(Name, Address, and Phone number of Hearing Official)

for a hearing to appeal the decision.

The policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure. Each school and the central office of the school district has a copy of the policy which may be reviewed by an interested party.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if household size changes at any time, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for reduced price meals, free meals, or free milk, if the family income falls at or below the levels shown above.

<p>In accordance with 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.</p> <p>To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.</p>
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This is the Public Release we will send on August 13, 2008 to the following news media outlets,

the local unemployment office, major employers contemplating layoffs, etc.

1. Hartford Courant, 285 Broad St. Hartford, Ct.
2. Middletown Press, 2 Main St. Middletown, Ct 06457
3. Clinton Recorder, 16D W. Main St. Clinton Ct. 06413
4. State of Ct. Labor Dept., 645 S. Main St. Middletown, Ct. 06457