2023-24 Free/Reduced Meals Information

Tahoma School District participates in the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program.

- Students may qualify for meal benefits based on approved applications for free and reduced-priced meals.
- The applications forms are available at the schools' offices, the District Central Services Center, the Food Services
 office, and online.
- The District mass emails the application forms to all Tahoma families before the start of the school year.
- Direct Certification: Homeless, migrant and foster students are categorically eligible for free meal benefits.

All meal benefits from the previous school year expire on October 11, 2023.

- If you want to renew your child's status, Nutrition Services must receive and approve your completed meal application for the current school year by October 11, 2023.
- If you do not apply for meal benefits by October 11, 2023, your child's status will revert to paid until a new application is approved. This means parents have to pay full price for all school meals served.
- Applications for meal benefits may be submitted at any time during the school year.
- Please send money or a meal to school with your student until your application for meal benefits is approved.

Parents/Guardians must submit a new application at the start of each school year.

- Starting on Monday, August 1, 2023 paper applications for meal benefits are available at the Tahoma Central Services Center, 25720 Maple Valley Black Diamond Rd. SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038; at the Food Service office; and your school's office.
- Starting on Monday, August 1, applications may be submitted online thru <u>Skyward Family Access</u>.
- Returning the application in a timely manner will ensure that children do not lose meal benefits to which they are entitled. We encourage you to turn in your application by October 1, 2023 to allow time for processing.
- Please complete ONE (1) application per family.
- Per USDA regulations, all applications must be processed within 10 school days of receipt. Applications are typically processed within 48 hours. Parents/guardians will be notified by mail or email when the application has been processed.
- All information on the application is confidential.

Foreign language translations of the application forms are posted here:

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/translated-applications

Parents/Guardians are responsible for paying for all school meals served to their child(ren) including meals served prior to qualifying for free or reduced-price meals.

- Every student has a cafeteria account.
- All cafeteria account balances will carry over to the next school year. If the student moves to a new building, the
 balance will transfer. We encourage parents to check their child's account balance before school starts.
 If your child's account balance is negative, please make a payment to pay down or pay off the negative balance.
 Breakfast and lunch will be served at no cost to those children who qualify for free and reduced-price meals in
 grades K-12. All other students will be charged the rates shown below.

Grades	Breakfast		Lunch	
	regular	reduced price	regular	reduced price
K-5	\$2.75	\$0.00	\$4.25	\$0.00
6-8	\$3.00	\$0.00	\$4.75	\$0.00
9-12	\$3.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$0.00
Adult	\$4.00	-	\$6.00	=
Milk only	\$0.75	-	\$0.75	-

Please make **online payments** at https://wa-tahoma.intouchreceipting.com. Parents may send check or cash payments with their child to school. Click here for more information on **how to pay for school meals**.