



Michigan Association of School Boards  
September 13, 2023



## Michigan School Meals

- Fiscal Year 2024 State School Aid Budget included Sec. 30d Universal School Meals
- Meals can be served at no cost to students
- State-Funded Reimbursement Program
- Thank you to the American Heart Association, No Kid Hungry Michigan, the School Nutrition Association of Michigan, the state legislature and Executive Office of Governor Gretchen Whitmer
- Starts with 2023-2024 school year



## What is Eligible for Michigan School Meals Reimbursement?

- Meals served in public school districts, public school academies and intermediate school districts
- Meals served to students in:
  - Kindergarten to Grade 12
  - Pre-Kindergarten Great Start Readiness Program (GRSP) or tuition-based 4-year-old preschool classrooms
  - Special Education programs up to age 26
- One breakfast and one lunch per student per day



## What is Not Eligible for Michigan School Meals Reimbursement?

- Meals served in Nonpublic Schools
- Meals served in GSRP or other preschool programs that are part of Community Based Organization (CBO)
- Meals served to children age 3 and under
  - Starting with SY 2023-2024 meals for children age 3 and under must be claimed in Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Meals served to volunteers, teachers, and staff
- A la carte and second meals



## What are the Michigan School Meals Program Requirements for Participation?

Program requirements include but are not limited to:

- Must participate in both National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program
- Adopt Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to maximize federal reimbursement
- Collect relevant family income information
  - Application for Summer EBT and Education Benefit form for Michigan School Meals (traditional F/RP/P schools)
  - Education Benefits Form (CEP schools)
- Write off all outstanding student meal debt
  - Separate funding is available to assist
- *Program Participation is optional for sponsors*



## What are the Michigan School Meals Program Recommendations for Participation?

- Participating sponsors are encouraged to offer meals that meet students' dietary restrictions, including:
  - The provision of gluten-free meals, vegetarian meals, vegan meals
  - Upon request, kosher meals, halal meals
  - Meals meeting any allergy restrictions as confirmed by a doctor's note



# Education Benefits: What are they for?

## District Reporting

- Local education agencies are required to report student eligibility data in order to receive certain federal and state funds.
- MSDS Collections that require SNE include the Fall, Spring, and End of Year General Collections.
- Following are some of these uses:
  - Section 31a & Title I allocations and grant awards
  - E-Rate
  - Perkins Core Performance Indicators
  - School Index and Parent Transparency Dashboard
  - Graduation and Dropout Rates
  - Great Start Readiness Program
  - School Nutrition Programs
  - Summer EBT



# Education Benefits: What are they for?

## Individual Districts and Households

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# What is the Application for Summer EBT and Education Benefits?

- Who?
  - Any school that claims meals based on free, reduced-price, and paid student benefits.
- What?
  - Application for Summer EBT and Education Benefits (formerly School Meals Applications and Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application)
- Where?
  - The [Michigan School Meals](#) program website.
- When?
  - After July 1 each year, before the start of the school year.
- How?
  - Online, paper application, or a combination of both.
- Why?
  - Education benefits provided to the district, individual school building, or household



2023-2024 Application for Summer EBT and Education Benefits with the Michigan School Meals Program. Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

**STEP 1: List ALL children, including children not attending school, in the household. Do not include children of your spouse who are not in the household.**

Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student?	School	Grade	Gender	Homeless	Michigan
1)			<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2)			<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3)			<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4)			<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**STEP 2: List ALL household members including yourself, including you, if you are a parent or guardian.**

**STEP 3: List ALL household members not attending school, including you, if you are a parent or guardian.**

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# What is the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Education Benefits Form?

- Who?
  - Any school that participates in CEP.
- What?
  - Education Benefits Form (formerly the Household Information Report)
- Where?
  - The [CEP Forms and Resources page](#) and [Michigan School Meals](#) program website.
- When?
  - After July 1 each year, before the start of the school year.
- How?
  - Online, paper form, or a combination of both.
- Why?
  - Education benefits provided to the district, individual school building, or household



**EDUCATION BENEFITS FORM SY 2023 - 2024**

District: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part A: STUDENT INFORMATION - Complete for each student Pre-K through 12th Grade**

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name	Grade Level	School	Identify as Homeless if Parent or Guardian

**Part B: BENEFITS RECEIVED (if applicable)**

If any member of your household receives Food Assistance Program (FAP), Family Independence Program (FIP), or FIP/FA, provide the name and case number for the person who receives benefits. Bridge Card Numbers and Medicaid Numbers are NOT ACCEPTABLE case numbers.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part C: Part D: ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME - Select the appropriate range of combined annual income for all people in the household (include all income before taxes).**

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	At or below	Between	At or above
1	\$18,954	\$18,955 and \$26,973	\$26,974
2	\$25,939	\$25,940 and \$39,482	\$39,483
3	\$32,918	\$32,919 and \$45,951	\$45,952
4	\$39,000	\$39,001 and \$55,500	\$55,501
5	\$45,082	\$45,083 and \$65,009	\$65,010
6	\$51,064	\$51,065 and \$74,518	\$74,519
7	\$57,046	\$57,047 and \$84,027	\$84,028
8	\$63,028	\$63,029 and \$93,536	\$93,537

\*Special Instructions for households with more than 8 people: DO NOT check the boxes above. Instead, fill in items below:  
Household size (if people): \_\_\_\_\_ Total annual income: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part E: CERTIFICATION - The head of household or adult designee who completed this form must complete this certification section.**

I certify (promise) that all information on this form is true and that all income is reported to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this form may impact the amount of State or Federal funding allocated to my local school district. I understand that the information I have provided may be verified.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (Printed Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Email Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work Phone) \_\_\_\_\_



## Let's Recap on the Applications and Forms

- Applications or Forms are not required to receive school meals
- May strongly encourage families to complete the applications or forms
- May use incentives if the Nonprofit School Food Service Account is not paying
- Must run Direct Certification reports
- [www.michigan.gov/mde-michiganschoolmeals](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-michiganschoolmeals)



## What is the 31k Grant Funding for Student Meal Debt Forgiveness?

- Required for opting into Michigan School Meals
- Application is open
- For School Year 2023-2024 only
- \$2.5 Million to reimburse districts for forgiving current student meal debt
- Districts must apply by October 1, 2023
- To be eligible for grant payments districts must:
  - Adopt meal charge polices that prevent all forms of lunch shaming
  - Write off current student meal debt with a transfer from the General Fund
  - Not be a previous awardee of a 31k grant in SY 2020-2021
- A link to the application and additional details are available on our new [MI School Meals website](#)



**Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Nutrition Services**

We are so excited to offer healthy meals at no charge for this coming school year! Please scan the QR code and complete the application, as it has the potential to improve services for our students such as technology, grants for classrooms, and more!



**Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Nutrition Services is at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.**

Our menu is a fusion of flavors that welcomes everyone! Explore our wide range of halal-friendly options on our website: <http://tinyurl.com/pccsnutrition>



**Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Nutrition Services is at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.**


Savor the best of both worlds! PCCS proudly offers a variety of delicious halal-friendly vegetarian options. For more details, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/pccsnutrition>.






## Social Media Examples

# More Social Media Examples





**St. Charles Community Schools**

Follow 20h

Great news! Every student at St. Charles Community Schools District from pre-K to 12th grade can now enjoy a nutritious breakfast and lunch for free, thanks to the Michigan School Meals Program.

To ensure that we continue to receive state and federal funding for this initiative, we kindly ask all parents to complete a short mandatory survey at <https://stcharles.familyportal.cloud/>

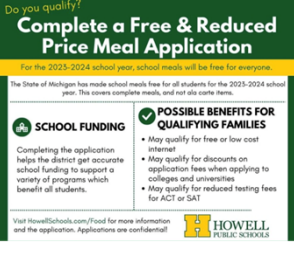
If you have trouble logging in, there are options to reset your account or create a new one. Once you're in, please follow these steps: sign in, click the Benefits tab, answer the questions, electronically sign your name, and click submit.

Your cooperation is crucial to the success of this program. Thank you for your support, and GO BULLDOGS!

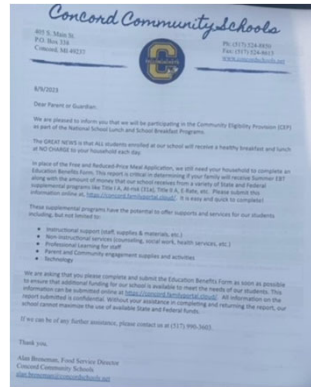
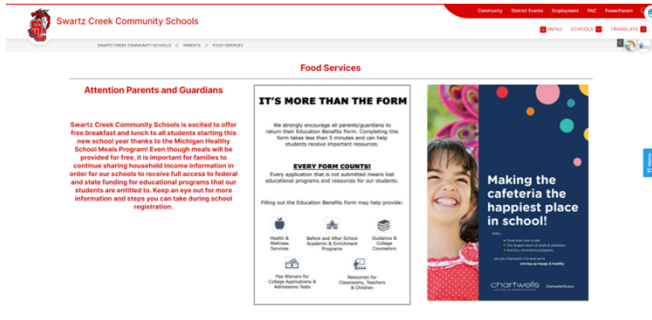
**Howell Public School District**

Follow 2d

We are excited that the State of Michigan will provide free breakfast and lunch to all students starting this school year... See more



# Examples of Letters and Websites



# What Resources are Available?

[www.Michigan.gov/mde-michiganschoolmeals](http://www.Michigan.gov/mde-michiganschoolmeals)

**DON'T SCRAP THE APP!**

We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to return their Application for Summer EBT and Education Benefits with the Michigan School Meals Program. Completing this application takes less than 10 minutes and can help students receive important resources.

**EVERY APPLICATION COUNTS!**

Every application that is not submitted means lost educational programs and resources for our students.

Filing out the application may help provide:

- Health & Wellness Services
- Before and After School Academic & Enrichment Programs
- Academic & College Outcomes
- Fee Waivers for College Applications & Admissions Tests
- Resources for Classrooms, Teachers & Children

**Michigan School Meals**

Starting July 26, 2023, public school students in Michigan are able to eat breakfast and lunch for free!

**What Comes Next:**

1. Complete the Education Benefits Form (EBF) and return it to your school.

2. The school will determine if your child is eligible for free breakfast and lunch.

3. If eligible, your child will receive free breakfast and lunch at school.

4. If not eligible, you will receive a letter from the school explaining why.

5. If you have any questions, contact your school or call 1-800-452-3862.

Family Information is Always Confidential

Michigan Department of Education





# Questions?

Ultimately, the intent is to improve the access kids have to healthy meals. Here is what we all need to be doing to make this successful:

- Increase participation by:
  - improving the quality of the meals served
  - increase the time kids have time to eat
- Improve access to financial resources:
  - USDA foods
  - Supply Chain Assistance Funds
- Participate in additional programs available to your school:
  - 10 cent/meal
  - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
  - Equipment Assistance Grant
  - School Breakfast Grants
  - After School Snacks and Suppers
  - CACFP

