School Year 2019-2020 Public Media Release for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

DoDEA Pacific South, Guam announces its policy to serve nutritious meals every school day under the National School Lunch Program. Effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines.

| Income Eligibility Reduced-Price Guidelines—July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020 | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Family Size | Annually | Monthly | Twice Per Month | Every Two Weeks | Weekly |
| 1 | \$23,107 | \$1,926 | \$963 | \$889 | \$445 |
| 2 | \$31,284 | \$2,607 | \$1,304 | \$1,204 | \$602 |
| 3 | \$39,461 | \$3,289 | \$1,645 | \$1,518 | \$759 |
| 4 | \$47,638 | \$3,970 | \$1,985 | \$1,833 | \$917 |
| 5 | \$55,815 | \$4,652 | \$2,326 | \$2,147 | \$1,074 |
| 6 | \$63,992 | \$5,333 | \$2,667 | \$2,462 | \$1,231 |
| 7 | \$72,169 | \$6,015 | \$3,008 | \$2,776 | \$1,388 |
| 8 | \$80,346 | \$6,696 | \$3,348 | \$3,091 | \$1,546 |
| For each additional family member add: | | | | | |
| | \$8,177 | \$682 | \$341 | \$315 | \$158 |

Households do not need to turn in an application when the household receives a notification letter saying that all children automatically qualify for free meals when any household member receives benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs. Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway, and children enrolled in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals. Contact school officials if any child in the household is not on the notification letter. The household must let school officials know if they do not want to receive free or reduced-price meals.

Applications will made available to all households with a letter about the free and reduced-price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits, must fill out one application for all children in the household and return it to the school or the Guam Field Office located at 100 Johnson Rd. Hagatna, Guam 96910. Applications may also be submitted via email to GuamSupt.DSO@pac.dodea.edu. Contact the Food Services Specialist at 671-344-9792 for help filling out the application. The school will let you know if your application is approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals via notification letter.

Households may turn in an application at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now, but your household income goes down, household size goes up, or a household member starts receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs you may turn in an application at that time. Information given on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school officials. The last four digits of the Social Security number from any adult household or checking that you do not have a Social Security number is required if you include income on the application.

Households that receive Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefits, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals by filling out an application.

Foster children are eligible for free meals and may be included as a household member if the foster family chooses to also apply for the non-foster children on the same application. Including foster children as a household member may help the non-foster children qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If the non-foster children are not eligible, this does not keep foster children from receiving free meals.

Your child's eligibility status from last school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 school days or until the school processes your new application, or your child is otherwise certified for free or reduced-price meals. After the 30 school days, your child will have to pay full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials do not have to send reminder or expired eligibility notices.

If you do not agree with the decision or results of verification, you may discuss it with school officials. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by calling or writing the hearing official: Scott Hall, 100 Johnson Road, Hagatna, Guam 96910, 671-344-9500.

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 child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Fax: 202) 690-7442; or

Email: <u>program.intake@usda.gov</u>

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