

San Joaquin County Office of Education

James A. Mousalimas, County Superintendent of Schools

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
017-005: Nutrition Program Statement

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SJCOE Announces its Breakfast and Lunch Program

Annual statement of SJCOE nutrition-program policy includes eligibility guidelines

The San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) announces its annual statement on policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Under the current policy, students in the SJCOE's **one**.Program will continue to receive free breakfast and lunch, regardless of eligibility guidelines.

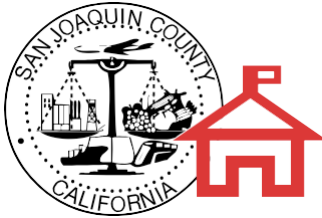
"Although there are federal and state guidelines as to who is eligible for free or reduced lunches, we have chosen to provide all students within our program with a free meal, regardless of his or her income level," SJCOE Student Services Supervisor Jennifer Lawrence said.

All students in SJCOE's **one**.Charter and San Joaquin Building Futures Academy schools also receive free breakfast and lunch. Students in SJCOE Special Education programs receive free or reduced-price meals if families meet eligibility requirements.

The chart below contains the household size and income criteria used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is equivalent or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Children who receive Food Stamps (CalFresh), California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin-GAP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside. Eligibility for a foster child is based on a separate application and solely on the amount of the child's "personal use" income.

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children. Applications are also available at the SJCOE County Operated Schools and Programs office. Households must complete an application and return it to the school at any time during the school year for processing. Requirements for free and reduced-price lunch benefits are as follows:

- For households receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child's name, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member.
- For households who do not list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR case number, the application



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must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding Social Security number of an adult household member.

Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with the sponsor or agency's hearing official. Parents or guardians should contact their child's school for specific information regarding the name of the determining official and-or hearing official for a specific school, agency, or district.

Household size	Free Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast, and Milk					Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast				
	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	\$ 15,444	\$ 1,287	\$ 644	\$ 594	\$ 297	\$ 21,978	\$ 1,832	\$ 916	\$ 846	\$ 423
2	20,826	1,736	868	801	401	29,637	2,470	1,235	1,140	570
3	26,208	2,184	1,092	1,008	504	37,296	3,108	1,554	1,435	718
4	31,590	2,633	1,317	1,215	608	44,955	3,747	1,874	1,730	865
5	36,972	3,081	1,541	1,422	711	52,614	4,385	2,193	2,024	1,012
6	42,354	3,530	1,765	1,629	815	60,273	5,023	2,512	2,319	1,160
7	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919	67,951	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307
8	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023	75,647	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455
For each additional family member, add:										
	\$ 5,408	\$ 451	\$ 226	\$ 208	\$ 104	\$ 7,696	\$ 642	\$ 321	\$ 296	\$ 148

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San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) provides educational leadership, resources, and services to support schools throughout the county. With its highly regarded programs, innovative staff, and community partnerships, SJCOE ensures that every student in San Joaquin County has the opportunity of a quality education. For more information, visit www.sjcoe.org.