

ResponsiveEd[®]

The Texas Department of Agriculture recently announced an extension of current school meal programs through December 31, 2020, or until funds are exhausted. This extension allows ResponsiveEd schools to provide free meals to any enrolled student under the age of 19, or those who are 19 but under the age of 26 and are currently enrolled in school to complete requirements for a high school diploma. Free meals for enrolled students begins Monday, September 28, and ends on December 31, 2020. Thereafter, students will be required to purchase meals according to their eligibility status. Families can continue to receive free or reduced meal benefits after December 31, 2020, by completing the free and reduced meal application today at www.lunchapplication.com.

In-person learners will receive free meals through the normal course of the school day. Students participating in off-campus, remote learning may pick up meals curbside on ResponsiveEd campuses. Meals will be provided to families or caregivers on campus, even when the child is not present, provided they can show evidence of the student's enrollment. Examples of acceptable documents are as follows:

- Student ID
- Official letter/email from the school that shows the child is enrolled
- Individual student report cards
- Attendance record
- Or anything else that shows a student is enrolled

If a parent or caregiver does not have enrollment information, the child must be present to receive a meal.

Meals feature foods that are prepared by ResponsiveEd Child Nutrition Program staff and curbside meals are frozen for at-home preparation. Meals include protein, grains, fruits, vegetables, and milk. Students will still be required to purchase a la carte items and meals will not be served in the event a school is closed for any reason, including holidays. If you have any questions please contact your campus.

Sincerely,

Melissa Summarsell
Director of Child Nutrition
ResponsiveEd¹

¹ 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, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior credible activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or 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 discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) 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: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.