

Letter to Household School Year 2026-2027

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Del Mar Union School District participates in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program by offering nutritious meals every school day. Beginning school year 2022-23, all district schools will participate in the **California Universal Meals Program, AB 130, which requires public school districts serving students in grades K–12 to provide two meals free of charge (breakfast and lunch) during each school day to students requesting a meal, regardless of their free or reduced-price meal eligibility.**

The meal programs we participate in are supported by federal and state reimbursements that are based on household income and eligibility. Completing a household meal application supports the district in maximizing funding for the nonprofit child nutrition program. Submission of a household meal application may help the district qualify for additional funding and provide students and households with educational and community discounts.

Your participation is greatly appreciated. You and your children do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify. Beginning in August, households can submit applications for the upcoming school year. You may complete the paper application and return it to your school, or the Nutrition Services administrative office located at 6631 Solterra Vista Pkwy., Del Mar, CA 92130. To complete the online application, go to:
<https://www.schoolcafe.com/dmusd>

Qualification

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the federal Income Eligibility Guidelines below.

Income Eligibility Guidelines

Reduced-Price Meals					
July 1, 2026 -June 30, 2027					
Household Size	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two weeks	Week
1	\$ 29,526	\$2,461	\$ 1,231	\$ 1,136	\$ 568
2	\$ 40,034	\$3,337	\$ 1,669	\$ 1,540	\$ 770
3	\$ 50,542	\$4,212	\$ 2,106	\$ 1,944	\$ 972
4	\$ 61,050	\$5,088	\$ 2,544	\$ 2,349	\$1,175
5	\$ 71,558	\$5,964	\$ 2,982	\$ 2,753	\$1,377
6	\$ 82,066	\$6,839	\$ 3,420	\$ 3,157	\$1,579
7	\$ 92,574	\$7,715	\$ 3,858	\$ 3,561	\$1,781
8	\$ 103,082	\$8,591	\$ 4,296	\$ 3,965	\$1,983
For each additional family member, add:					
	\$ 10,508	\$ 876	\$ 438	\$ 405	\$ 203

Free Meals					
July 1, 2026 -June 30, 2027					
Household Size	Year	Month	Twice Per Month	Every Two weeks	Week
1	\$20,748	\$1,729	\$ 865	\$ 798	\$ 399
2	\$28,132	\$2,345	\$ 1,173	\$ 1,082	\$ 541
3	\$35,516	\$2,960	\$ 1,480	\$ 1,366	\$ 683
4	\$42,900	\$3,575	\$ 1,788	\$ 1,650	\$ 825
5	\$50,284	\$4,191	\$ 2,096	\$ 1,934	\$ 967
6	\$57,668	\$4,806	\$ 2,403	\$ 2,218	\$1,109
7	\$65,052	\$5,421	\$ 2,711	\$ 2,502	\$1,251
8	\$72,436	\$6,037	\$ 3,019	\$ 2,786	\$1,393
For each additional family member, add:					
	\$ 7,384	\$ 616	\$ 308	\$ 284	\$ 142

Applying for Benefits

An application for free or reduced-price meals cannot be reviewed unless all required fields are completed. A household may apply at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now, but your household income decreases, household size increases, or a household member becomes eligible for CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits, you may submit an application at that time.

Direct Certification

An application is not required if the household receives a notification letter indicating all children are automatically certified for free meals. If you did not receive a letter, please complete an application.

Verification:

School officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year. You may be asked to submit information to validate your income or current eligibility for CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Participants

Households that receive Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC benefits, may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals by completing an application.

Homeless, Migrant, and Runaway

Children who meet the definition of homeless, migrant, or runaway are eligible for free meals. For assistance, please contact: Justine Stacy at 858-755-9301 x 3688 or email: jstacy@dmusd.org

Foster Child

The legal responsibility must be through a foster care agency or court to qualify for free meals. A foster child may be included as a household member if the foster family chooses to apply for their non-foster children on the same application and must report any personal income earned by the foster child. If the non-foster children are not eligible, this does not prevent a foster child from receiving free meals.

Fair Hearing

If you do not agree with the school's decision regarding your application's determination or the result of verification, you may discuss it with the hearing official. You also have the right to a fair hearing, which may be requested by calling or writing to the following: Chris Delehanty, 11232 El Camino Real, San Diego, CA 92130, 858-755-9301.

Eligibility Carryover

Your child's eligibility status from the previous school year will continue into the new school year for up to 30 operating days or until a new determination is made. The DMUSD carryover period **final day is on September 21, 2026**. Your child's meal eligibility will expire unless your household receives a (school year 2026-27) notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials are not required to send a reminder or expired eligibility notices.

Nondiscrimination Statement

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, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights 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 State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and

TTY). 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, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

How to Apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

Complete one application per household. Please print clearly with a pen. Incomplete, illegible, or incorrect information will delay processing.

1. **Student Information**—Include **all students** who attend Del Mar Union School District. Print their name (first, middle initial, last), school, grade level, and birthdate. If any student listed is a foster child, check the **Foster** box. If you are only applying for a foster child, complete STEP 1, and then continue to STEP 4. If any student listed may be homeless, migrant, or runaway, check the applicable **Homeless, Migrant, or Runaway** box and complete all **STEPS** of the application.
2. **Assistance Programs**—If **any** household member (child or adult) participates in CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR, then all children are eligible for free meals. Must check the applicable assistance program box, enter one case number, and then continue to STEP 4. If no one participates, skip STEP 2 and continue to STEP 3.
3. **Report Income for all Household Members**—Must report **gross** income (before deductions) from **all** household members (children and adults) in whole dollars. Enter **0** for any household member that does not receive income.
Report the combined **gross** income for all students listed in STEP 1 and enter the appropriate pay period. Include a foster child's income if you are applying for foster and non-foster children on the same application.

Print the names (first and last) of **all other** household members not listed in STEP 1, including yourself. Report the total **gross** income from each source and enter the appropriate pay period.

Enter the total household size (children and adults). This number **must** equal the listed household members from STEP 1 and STEP 3.

Enter the last four digits of your Social Security number (SSN). If no adult household member has a SSN, check the **NO SSN** box.

4. **Contact Information and Adult Signature** —The application must be signed by an adult household member. Print the name of the adult signing the application, contact information, and today's date.

Optional – Children's Ethnic and Racial Identities

This field is optional to complete and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals. Please check the appropriate boxes.

Information Statement

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 SSN of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the SSN are not required when you list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, or 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 an SSN by selecting the checkbox. We will use your information to determine if your

child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, and for the administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs.

Submit

Please submit a complete application to your child's school or the Nutrition Services Administrative Office at 6631 Solterra Vista Pkwy., Del Mar, CA 92130. You will be notified whether your application for free or reduced-price meals is approved or denied.

Questions or Assistance

If you have questions or need assistance, call the Nutrition Services Department at 858-523-6031.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jamie Phillips, MBA
Director of Nutrition Services

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

School Year 2026-2027 Del Mar Union School District Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Complete **ONE** application per household.

Please read the instructions on how to apply. Print clearly with a pen. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

California Education Code Section 49557(a): Applications for free and reduced-price meals may be submitted at any time during a school day. Children participating in the federal National School Lunch Program will not be overtly identified by the use of special tokens, special tickets, special serving lines, separate entrances, separate dining areas, or by any other means.

STEP 1 – STUDENT INFORMATION

Children in **Foster Care** and children who meet the definition of **Homeless, Migrant, or Runaway** are eligible for free meals.

Print the name of EACH STUDENT attending Del Mar Union School District (First, Middle Initial, Last)	Enter school name and grade level		Enter student's birthdate	Check the applicable box if the student is foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway .			
EXAMPLE: Joseph P Adams	EXAMPLE: Lincoln Elementary	Example: 1st	EXAMPLE: 12-15-2017	Foster	Homeless	Migrant	Runaway
				☐	☐	☐	☐
				☐	☐	☐	☐
				☐	☐	☐	☐
				☐	☐	☐	☐

STEP 2 – ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDIPIR

Do ANY household members (child or adult) currently participate in CalFresh, CalWORKs or FDIPIR? If **NO**, skip STEP 2 and continue to STEP 3.

If YES , check the applicable program box, enter one case number, skip STEP 3, and continue to STEP 4.	Select Program Type:			Enter Case Number:
	☐ CalFresh	☐ CalWORKs	☐ FDIPIR	

STEP 3 – REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (Skip this step if you answered 'YES' in STEP 2)

A. STUDENT INCOME: Sometimes students in the household earn income. Enter the TOTAL GROSS income (before deductions) in whole dollars earned by all students listed in STEP 1. Enter the appropriate pay period in the "How Often" box: W = Weekly, 2W = Biweekly, 2M = Twice a Month, M = Monthly, Y = Yearly										Total Student Income		How Often		
										\$				
B. ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (including yourself): List ALL household members not listed in STEP 1, even if they do not receive income. For each household member, report the TOTAL GROSS income (before deductions) in whole dollars for each source. If the household member does not receive income from any sources, write "0". If you enter "0" or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Enter the appropriate pay period in the "How Often" box: W = Weekly, 2W = Biweekly, 2M = Twice a Month, M = Monthly, Y = Yearly														
Print the name of ALL OTHER Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work			How Often	Public Assistance/SSI/ Child Support/Alimony			How Often	Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income			How Often		
	\$					\$				\$				
	\$					\$				\$				
	\$					\$				\$				
	\$					\$				\$				
C. Total Household Members (Children & Adults) 		D. Enter the last four digits of Social Security number (SSN) from the Primary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Member						Check the Box if No SSN						

STEP 4 – CONTACT INFORMATION & ADULT SIGNATURE

Certification: I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable state and federal laws.

Signature of adult completing this application:	
Print Name:	
Date:	Phone Number:
Mailing Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
E-mail:	

DO NOT COMPLETE. SCHOOL USE ONLY

How Often? ☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-Weekly ☐ Twice a Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Yearly				Total Household Income			
Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x52, Biweekly x26, Twice a Month x24, Monthly x12				\$			
Total Household Size	Eligibility Status: ☐ Free ☐ Reduced-price ☐ Paid (Denied)			☐ Categorical			
	Verified as: ☐ Homeless ☐ Migrant ☐ Runaway			☐ Error Prone			
Determining Official's Signature:				Date:			
Confirming Official's Signature:				Date:			
Verifying Official's Signature:				Date:			

OPTIONAL – CHILDREN'S ETHNIC AND RACIAL IDENTITIES

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

Ethnicity (check one):	
☐ Hispanic or Latino	☐ Not Hispanic or Latino
Race (check one or more):	
☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native	☐ Asian
☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	☐ Black or African American
	☐ White