



Rhinebeck Central School District

P.O. Box 351, Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572
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THOMAS E. BURNELL
Assistant Superintendent for Support Services

August 28, 2023

Dear Rhinebeck families,

Due to changes in school meal service issued by the USDA, we are asking families to complete the enclosed Free and Reduced-Price Family Application if your family qualifies based on the Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale below, you may also qualify for free meals based on your family's income. **Based on the USDA decision school breakfast and lunch meals have returned to their normal procedures for the 2023-24 School Year and Rhinebeck schools will be charging students based on their status of Free, Reduced*, or Paid for all meals. Please note that REDUCED students aren't required to pay the \$0.25 cost for breakfast or lunch meals this year as New York State is picking up that additional cost.**

Families must complete the Free and Reduced-price Family Application to qualify for free and/or reduced-price meals. We encourage all potentially eligible families to complete the application. If you currently qualify for the *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program* (SNAP) and/or Medicaid eligible, you don't need to complete the Free and Reduced-price Family Application as your student(s) are qualified through direct certification.

To qualify for free and/or reduced prices your income must be below the following 2023-24 income eligibility guideline for reduced pricing:

Reduced Price Eligibility Scale*					
Reduced Price Lunch, Breakfast					
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 26,973	\$ 2,248	\$ 1,124	\$ 1,038	\$ 519
2	\$ 36,482	\$ 3,041	\$ 1,521	\$ 1,404	\$ 702
3	\$ 45,991	\$ 3,833	\$ 1,917	\$ 1,769	\$ 885
4	\$ 55,500	\$ 4,625	\$ 2,313	\$ 2,135	\$ 1,068
5	\$ 65,009	\$ 5,418	\$ 2,709	\$ 2,501	\$ 1,251
6	\$ 74,518	\$ 6,210	\$ 3,105	\$ 2,867	\$ 1,434
7	\$ 84,027	\$ 7,003	\$ 3,502	\$ 3,232	\$ 1,616
8	\$ 93,536	\$ 7,795	\$ 3,898	\$ 3,598	\$ 1,799
Each Add'l person, add	\$ 9,509	\$ 793	\$ 397	\$ 366	\$ 183

Please go to <https://www.rhinebeckcsd.org/cms/one.aspx?portalid=58858&pageid=59526%20> to find the Free and Reduced-price Family Application and other school lunch documents in the SCHOOL LUNCH folder. In addition, there are other documents on the webpage that will help you complete the application, including a Fact Sheet with frequently asked questions.

If you require a hard copy of the Free and Reduced-price Family Application, please call Kate Briskey at 845 871-5500 Ext. 5523 or contact your student's Principal's office for a copy to be sent to your home.

*Reduced-priced families will not be required pay the \$0.25 per meal charge this year as New York State is paying for all Reduced-price meals this year.

Even if you do not participate in the school lunch program, but would qualify for free/reduced status, we encourage you to complete the 2023-24 Free-Reduced Lunch application. Many of the Federal and NYS aid programs to the school district are based upon the number of eligible participants in the free/reduced program along with other associated benefits to those families who qualify for free/reduced meals.

Students who do not qualify for free and/or reduced-priced meals must pay full price for breakfast and lunch:

	Breakfast	Lunch
Chancellor Livingston Elementary School	\$1.50	\$3.25
Bulkeley MS & Rhinebeck HS	\$1.75	\$3.25

If your child has any food allergies or food sensitivities, they are to be reported on the Health Information form that will be provided in a separate packet from your child's school that is mailed in late August. The nurse will inform the school lunch program of food allergies and/or "other" medical conditions that are related to food.

Finally, the Rhinebeck Central School District is recruiting substitute food service workers for this coming school year. You would only work when your children are in school. If you would like an employment application, please visit our website at www.rhinebeckcsd.org or contact Larry Anthony at 845 871-5570 *6579 for more details.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Burnell

Asst. Supt. for Support Services

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

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, audiotope, 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](https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint), (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*Reduced-priced families will not be required pay the \$0.25 per meal charge this year as New York State is paying for all Reduced-price meals this year.