

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Athens City Schools offers healthy meals every school day. At the buildings that participate in the breakfast program children may buy it for 1.00. Lunch can be purchased at the elementaries for \$2.00 and at the middle and high school for \$2.25. Your child(ren) may qualify for free or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is .40 for lunch and .30 for breakfast.

1. **Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals using one application for all the students in your household that attend Athens City Schools. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. **Return the completed application to the school.**
2. **Who can get free meals?** Children in households getting Food Stamps or Ohio Works First (OWF) and most foster children can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free price meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines. **Medical cards do not qualify for eligibility.**
3. **Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?** Please call 797-4544 ext. 225 for information.
4. **Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, shown on this application.
5. **Should I fill out an application if my children was approved for free or reduced price meals last school year?** Yes, every year an application must be completed. Your application from last year is NOT valid for this year.
6. **I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
7. **Will the information I give be checked?** Yes, we may ask for you to send written proof.
8. **If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting Food Stamps or OWF or other benefits. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals. Also you must notify the schools if your household size decreases or you have an increase in income.
9. **What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Mr. Carl Martin, Superintendent, 25 South Plains Road, The Plains, Ohio 797-4544.
10. **May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You and your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
11. **Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
12. **What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 per month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.

If you have other questions or need help, call 797-4544 ext. 225.

Sincerely,
David B. McAllister
Business Manager