

# Frequently Asked Questions

A Federally Funded Free & Reduced Lunch program application is based on income and size of family. Based on the information received, your child may qualify for free or reduced-priced meals.

## Where do I get an application?

You may apply online at [schoolcafe.com](http://schoolcafe.com) or request an application from the campus office, cafeteria manager or come by Central office at 504 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street. You may call 512-746-2124 ext 1110 if you have any questions regarding free and reduced meals.

## How long does it take to find out if my child qualifies and how will I find out?

It can take up to 5-10 business days to process an application. Applications that are completed online are processed more quickly than paper applications. Apply online. You will be mailed or emailed a letter stating the outcome of your application (Please check your spam folder). Our cafeteria point-of-sale system will automatically update. Please contact our office to inquire about the status of your application.

## Do I need a separate application for each child?

No, you can list all household members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 on the same application. However, if you have foster children you will need to fill out form 2085E that can be provided to you by your school counselors.

## Do I need to re-apply every year?

Yes, a new application must be completed each school year. Students with approved applications on file from the previous school year will receive the same free or reduced-price meal benefits for the first 30 in-service days of school. After that, any family who has not submitted a new application will have meal benefits terminated after the first 30 in-service days of school. If your children are directly certified, you will receive an email letting you know that you do not need to apply.

## Will my eligibility status transfer from another school district?

No, you will need to fill out a Jarrell ISD application.

## **If I have a negative balance, will it be cleared if I am approved for free meals?**

No, any negative balance accrued before you submit a free/reduced application will still be due. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible starting around the end of July to keep the account from going into the negatives. We will begin emailing reminder household letters in July of every year letting you know it is time to apply.

## **Moving or graduating?**

Balances for graduating seniors will need to be paid before graduation.

Negative balance will be due upon withdraw. Your campus registrar will let you know whether you owe and how to make a payment. If you have a credit your registrar will also be able to assist you with this.