



Please keep this information handy!



APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS ONLINE!

champs.yourcharlotteschools.net

Questions? Please call 941-575-5400 ext. 109

Since we receive thousands, submit your application in EARLY JULY!

Free/Reduced-Price Meal Benefits Information for School year 2011/2012

To apply for your family's children to have free breakfast and lunch or reduced-price (30¢) breakfast and (40¢) lunch, please take the following steps:

- 1. New for 2011: Apply Online!** Listen for a SchoolConnect phone call on **July 1st** to remind you to complete a new Application to help your child(ren) become eligible for free or reduced-price meal benefits.
(Only 1 application needed for all school children in your household - it can be online or paper but no need to do both.)
Applying online is **not** automatic approval.

2. Want to complete a **paper application** instead?
(If you complete an Online Application, you do not need to complete a paper application.)

You can download a paper application from the district's website: www.yourcharlotteschools.net
 or call and request one be mailed to your home: 941-575-5400 ext. 109,
 or obtain one from your child's school office or complete the application sent home to you on the first day of school.
 If you choose to complete a paper application, *deliver or return the completed, signed application to your child's school or* mail the completed, signed Application to:

Champ's Café
 School Food and Nutrition Services Dept.
 1016 Education Avenue
 Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Use child's legal full name (from birth certificate), not their nickname.

Yes, a new application is required each school year.

3. If your family IS approved for free or reduced-price meals for your child, your notification letter will be mailed to the address you indicated on the application.
4. If your family is not approved for meal benefits, you will be notified by mail. Please apply again: when your family's income changes OR the number of people in your household changes



Yes, families may apply for meal benefits more than once during the school year!

IMPORTANT DATES:

July 1: Online Meal Benefit Applications for 2011/2012 school year are available at:

champs.yourcharlotteschools.net

an **Application** becomes available to download from website: champs.yourcharlotteschools.net July 1.

July 1: Completed Applications accepted for processing* for the new school year!

Aug. 8: First Day of School !

Sept. 19: Grace Period ENDS so be sure your child's application has been submitted **and approved** before this date!

IMPORTANT:

Grace Period in Effect until September 19 :

Students will begin new school year with either:

- the free/reduced-price/full price eligibility with which they ENDED the 2010/2011 school year
- or
- their new eligibility, if you have completed and returned your new family Meal Benefits Application!

**the district has up to 10 business days to process an application*

Send lunch money for your child until you receive notice that they have been approved.

Please note: USDA requires that parents/guardians **pay for their student's meals** until free or reduced-price status is **approved**.

61.59% or 10,064 of our district's students were eligible for free or reduced-price meals as of April 2011