

**PUBLIC RELEASE FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS
National School Lunch/Breakfast Program School Year 2018-2019**

**Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School
& Theodore R. Sizer Teachers Center**

49 Antietam Street, Devens, MA 01434
Telephone (978) 772-3293 Fax (978) 772-3295
www.theparkerschool.org

Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School plays a vital role in children's health by providing free and reduced price meals to students in need. The following U.S. Department of Agriculture Programs are offered: National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following family size income criteria for determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and will offer meals to students that qualify according to the standards below:

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019										
Household Size	FREE					REDUCED-PRICE				
	* Annual	** Monthly	*** Twice Per Month	**** Bi-Weekly	***** Weekly	* Annual	** Monthly	*** Twice Per Month	**** Bi-Weekly	***** Weekly
1	\$15,782	\$1,316	\$658	\$607	\$304	\$22,459	\$1,872	\$936	\$864	\$432
2	21,398	1,784	892	823	412	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586
3	27,014	2,252	1,126	1,039	520	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740
4	32,630	2,720	1,360	1,255	628	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893
5	38,246	3,188	1,594	1,471	736	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047
6	43,862	3,656	1,828	1,687	844	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201
7	49,478	4,124	2,062	1,903	952	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355
8	55,094	4,592	2,296	2,119	1,060	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508
Each additional household member add	+5,616	+468	+234	+216	+108	+7,992	+666	+333	+308	+154

Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Application forms, with a letter to households, are being distributed to all homes. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Only one application per household is needed. Additional copies are available at the office and on our website. The information provided on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

For school officials to determine eligibility, households must provide the following information listed on the application: the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member currently receives, where it came from, and how often income is received; the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number. If the adult signing the application does not have a social security number, check the "I do not have a social security number" box. For a child who is a member of a Basic Food household or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) assistance unit, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the household need provide

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only the child's name, the Basic Food, TANF, or FDPIR case number, and printed name and signature of an adult member on the application. An adult in the household with a case number may also qualify students also living in the household.

Families who are Directly Certified using the Virtual Gateway System are notified and no application is required. All children living in the household and attending the school are eligible for free meals. If a child was not listed on the eligibility notice, contact the school or district office.

Children certified as homeless by the school McKinney-Vento homeless liaison, designated as migrant by the school migrant coordinator as well as children in Head Start classrooms may be eligible for free meals. Contact the school or district office if more information is needed.

Foster children, under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. An application may be submitted. The foster child may be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children in the family. If you have questions about applying for foster children, contact the school or district office.

Children residing in households participating in Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) may be eligible for free or reduced price meals and may complete a meal application.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price policy, the designated approving official(s) will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the approving official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal may make a request, either orally or in writing, to the fair hearing official, Todd Sumner, for a hearing on the decision.

Meal benefits from the previous school year apply for the first 30 school days of the new school year or until a new application is submitted. After this time, children must pay full price for meals.

You may apply for meal benefits if you become unemployed or your economic situation changes at any time during the school year. Households that do not want their child(ren) to participate in the free meal program should notify the child(ren)'s school. Contact the school or district office if assistance is needed with application materials in different languages. The information provided by households is confidential.

NONDISCRIMINATION

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, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, 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](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a 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.

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