

West York Area School District Scott Rutkowski, Food Services Director

scrutkowski@wyasd.org (717) 843-4653

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Dear Parents of the West York Area School District,

Meals at all schools will be at no cost for the 2021-2022 school year due to the USDA extending free meals to all students. Ala Carte items can be purchased at the schools at an additional cost. There is no requirement to fill out an application to remain free this year; however, this data may be used for other government programs in the future that could benefit you.

Families who wish to, can complete an application for free or reduced-price school meals through the National School Lunch Program online through **PA School Meals** located at <a href="https://www.schoolcafe.com">www.schoolcafe.com</a>. Regardless of the outcome of your application, your student(s) will continue to be free until the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

If you do not have access to a computer, you may pick up a paper "Household Meal Benefit Application" from your child's school office. Please **do not** submit a paper application if you have already applied online. If you have received a direct certification in the mail this school year from the school district stating that you were approved for free or reduced-price meals, please do not apply again. This approval is good for the entire school year and the first 30 days of next school year.

Once you access **PA School Meals**, you will be guided through a series of questions regarding your household information. Applicants will need to list York County as the county of the school when applying, despite county of residence.

The PA school meals system will direct your free or reduced-price meal information to the school you select. The school will notify you if you are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Once you are notified of your child's benefit status, those benefits will be in place for the remainder of this school year and the first 30 days of the next school year.

Using the *PA School Meals* system should allow for timely and accurate processing of your application. I hope you will find it to be convenient and easy to use. Please contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Scott Rutkowski

Food Services Director