



Berkeley Unified School District

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Nutrition Services

## FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION

We are asking **every family** to complete an application for free/reduced price school meals. Even if your student does not intend to take advantage of the lunch program, every qualified application is counted towards bringing significant federal (Title I) and state (LCFF/LCAP) funding to our schools!

- Please **complete the application online at [ezmealapp.com](http://ezmealapp.com)** as soon as possible. Online applications are processed in just 24 hours, while paper applications may take up to 10 days.
- Only one form is needed per family, even if you have students at different schools in the district.
- There will be a verification number provided at the end of the online process. Please print out and keep the confirmation page which includes the verification number so you have a record of your application.
- If you have any questions about how to complete the form, please contact the Office of Family Engagement and Equity at 644-8991. Staff would be happy to help!

### Please Note:

- BUSD provides nutritious low-cost or free meals every school day. Breakfast is free for all students, and over 40% of our students are also eligible to receive lunch at no cost through the free/reduced price meal program.
- If your student does not qualify for free/reduced price lunch, and you do want the option of purchasing meals at school, there is a separate application for a student meal debit account for charging meals at <https://www.ezschooldpay.com/Login.aspx>. Lunch charges are \$4.00 in elementary schools, \$4.50 in middle schools, and \$5.00 in high schools.
- For students new to the district (all kindergarteners and any other new students), we can provide free (“comp”) lunches through Friday, September 12, while we wait for forms to be processed. However, as of Monday, September 15, students should have either a free/reduced lunch account or a paid lunch account.
- Applications can be filled out any time throughout the entire year. If your income changes during the year, you may wish to fill out a new application.
- Whether families qualify for free/reduced or paid meals, student confidentiality is protected by strict limits on the use of information obtained during the free and reduced-price school meals eligibility process.