

# Rice Free And Reduced Meal Program Outlined

Children need healthy meals to learn. Rice Consolidated ISD offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs: PK-Gr. 6 is \$1.25, Gr. 7 - 12 is \$1.50; Lunch costs: PK-6 is \$2.25, Gr. 7 - 12 is \$2.50.

Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is \$ .30 for breakfast and \$ .40 for lunch.

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child? No. Complete one application to apply for free or reduced-price meals. Use one Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.

We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Cafeteria Manager on campus.

2. Who can get free meals? Children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly the Food Stamp Program) or IANE can get free meals regardless of your income.

Your benefit letter from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is your documentation for free meals. If you have not already received a letter from your school stating that your household is eligible for free meals, you may take your HHSC benefit letter to your child nutrition office to be certified for free meals. Call the school at 979-234-3531 x 1033 if you have questions.

3. Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced-price meals? In most cases no, however read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions.

Call the school at 979-234-3531 x 1033 if you have questions. If your household does not receive SNAP or TANF, your children may still be eligible to receive free meals if your household income is less than the amounts listed on the federal

## Income Eligibility Guidelines.

Please complete the application and submit it to the cafeteria manager. Head Start students and most foster children may also qualify for free meals.

4. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals? Yes. If you have not been notified of free status under these categories, please call Bill Hefner, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator to see if your child(ren) qualify.

5. Who can get reduced price meals? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Income Chart, included in this application packet.

6. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals? Children in households participating in WIC May be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please fill out an application.

7. Will the information I give be checked? Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.

8. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting SNAP, TANF or other benefits.

9. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Mr. Michael Lanier, Superintendent, P O Box 338, Altair, TX 77412 - ph: 979-234-3531.

10. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

11. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include yourself and all people living in your household, related or not (such as children, grandparents, other relatives or friends).

12. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount

that you normally receive. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, that you normally receive. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime pay, include that amount as income. If you do not normally get overtime pay, do not include it as income.

13. We are in the military; do we include our housing allowance as income?

If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing

allowance as income.

All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

If you have other questions or

need help, call 979-234-3531 x 1033. Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al telefono: 979- 234-3531 x 1033.

## FEDERAL INCOME CHART

For School Year 2009-10

Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$386
2	\$26,955	\$2,247	\$519
3	\$33,874	\$2,823	\$652
4	\$40,793	\$3,400	\$785
5	\$47,712	\$3,976	\$918
6	\$54,631	\$4,553	\$1,051
7	\$61,550	\$5,130	\$1,184
8	\$68,469	\$5,706	\$1,317
Each additional person:	\$6,919	\$577	\$134

# ACT Testing Here Oct. 24, Feb. 6

ACT testing will be given at Rice High School on the following dates:

Saturday, October 24, 2009 and Saturday, February 6, 2010.

RHS will focus on getting the majority of its seniors signed up for the October test, and we will focus heavily on the juniors for the February test.

All juniors who plan on attending a four year college should take either the ACT or the SAT before the beginning of their senior year.

Any students planning on entering the medical profession at WCJC also need to take the ACT test. ACT/SAT scores are a factor in being admitted to many programs in this field.

Test scores are also a factor in receiving scholarships for college. Many of our local scholarship applications ask for ACT/SAT scores.

A good score can result in scholarship offers from colleges and universities.

If you are entering your senior year and you have not yet taken a college entrance test, then you will be given the opportunity to sign up next month.

We will work on the application through our English 4 classes.

Many of our students qualify for the free and reduced lunch program, but at the high school level, students often neglect to fill out and turn in the application.

High school students are often unaware that the free and reduced lunch program qualifies them for fee waivers for the ACT and SAT tests and also for college applications. S

ome colleges charge an application fee of \$50 or \$60. It can

get quickly get pretty expensive, but on the free and reduced lunch program, a student may use up to four fee waivers for college applications.

## Scholarship News

Many Rice High School students were the recipients of college scholarships at our annual Academic Awards Banquet in May.

\$150,000 in LOCAL scholarships were awarded. The Eagle Lake, Garwood, and Sheridan communities and the rest of Colorado County demonstrated their solid commitment to our local youth.

You don't find this level of community involvement in the larger urban and suburban communities! In addition to local scholarships, over \$600,000 in scholarships were offered from colleges and universities to which our students applied.

## Rice CISD Statement of Nondiscrimination

In its efforts to promote nondiscrimination, Rice CISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sex, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

The following district staff members have been designated to coordinate

compliance with these legal requirements:

Title IX Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex: Michael Lanier (979) 234-3531

Section 504 Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability: Michael Lanier (979) 234-3531.

All other concerns regarding discrimination: See the Superintendent, Michael Lanier (979) 234-3531

