



NUTRITION SERVICES

Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Immigrant and Refugee Status – Questions and Answers

Dear **Douglas County School District** families:

To clarify questions related to immigration and refugee status when applying for free or reduced price school meals, **Douglas County School District** has prepared the following collection of frequently asked questions and answers.

Q: What impact does undocumented, or documented, immigration or refugee status, have on my child receiving free or reduced price school meals?

A: None. Public school districts that participate in the National School Lunch Program and/ or the School Breakfast Program, like **Douglas County School District**, are required to process all submitted applications for free or reduced price school meals, regardless of immigration or refugee status and without discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. Eligibility is based on criteria outlined in the free and reduced price school meal application instructions.

Q: Does the Douglas County School District free and reduced price school meal application ask for an immigration or refugee status?

A: No. Immigration or refugee status is not required to be provided during the application process, and families should continue to apply for free or reduced price school meals. The application does require the last four numbers of a Social Security number or an indication that there is no Social Security number. Social Security number information is *not* reported to any organization outside of **Douglas County School District**.

Q: Does Douglas County School District ever share students' free or reduced price school meal information?

A: Free and reduced price school meal application information may be shared with education, health and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund or determine benefits for their programs. Families have the option to decline allowing their information to be shared with local education programs, Medicaid offices and/or State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP).

Q: What should I do if I feel like my student or I have been the victim of discrimination or harassment when filling out or submitting a free or reduced price school meal application?

A: Douglas County School District Nutrition Services
DCSD Nutrition Services Meal Program
Discrimination Policy

Any person alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability has a right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory action. All civil rights complaints within Douglas County School District's Nutrition Services Department should be directed Brent Craig, Director of Nutrition

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Services. Brent Craig can be reached via phone at 303-387-0307 or by email at brent.craig@dcsdk12.org. Complaints can be submitted verbally, in writing, or anonymously. Douglas County School District's Nutrition Services Department will obtain all necessary complaint information and process the complaint within 90 days. The complaint will be forwarded to Colorado Department of Education Office of School Nutrition or USDA

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