



July 18, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Zachary Community School District's Child Nutrition Program is committed to continually improving the nutritional quality of the meals we serve to our students. Our team has been working diligently to enhance our menus and focus on offering more nutritious and well-balanced options. We understand the importance of providing meals that taste good and contribute to our students' overall health and well-being. In addition to improving the quality of our meals, we also strive to increase the variety of options available to accommodate different dietary preferences and needs.

Effective immediately, the new income eligibility guidelines have been released for the upcoming school year. These guidelines determine the criteria for qualifying for free or reduced-price meals through our school's nutrition program. All families must review these guidelines to determine if they qualify for meal benefits. Income eligibility guidelines can be found here: 2025-2026 Child Nutrition Programs Income Eligibility Guidelines. Even if you received benefits last school year, you must reapply each year. If you are unsure if you qualify, we encourage you to apply. Applying for meal benefits is confidential, easy, and can be completed online or through a simple application process. It takes very little time and could be beneficial to your family.

To apply or to learn more about the application process, please visit <a href="https://www2.myschoolapps.com/">https://www2.myschoolapps.com/</a> or contact our ZCSD Child Nutrition office at 225-658-7049. Our team is here to assist you every step of the way. This application will be open on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Meal Benefit Application Instructions

Please be aware that meal debts from the 2024-2025 school year will roll over to the 2025-2026 school year. We encourage you to take care of any outstanding balances before the school year begins. In order to pay the balances, you will need to download the My School Bucks App on your iPhone or Android. MySchoolBucks has a FREE mobile app that is available for both iPhone and Android users in the <a href="App Store">App Store</a> or <a href="Play Store">Play Store</a>! With the MySchoolBucks app, you can quickly and securely add money to your student's school meal account using your credit card, debit card, or electronic check. Simply log in with the same username and password you use on the MySchoolBucks website.

If your child has a required diet modification due to an <u>allergy</u> or <u>religious reasons</u>, you must complete one of the attached diet modification forms linked below. These forms should be completed before your student arrives for their first day at school. We want to make sure your child is safe and healthy.

Diet Modification Form

**Religious Diet Modification Form** 

Thank you for your continued support of our Child Nutrition Program. Together, we can ensure that our students have access to nutritious meals that support their growth, development, and academic success.

Warm regards,

Bianca Coats, MPA, RD, LDN ZCSD Supervisor of Child Nutrition