



Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District

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FREE & REDUCED FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

On-Line Applications @ <https://freeandreduced.cfid.net>

1. How long does the eligibility last?

Eligibility lasts the entire school year and the first 30 operating days of the new school year.

2. Are families required to reapply each school year?

Yes, a family must submit a new application each school year. The application is dated with the current school year.

3. How far in advance should a family reapply?

A family should reapply in August of each new school year.

4. How are the new applications distributed to the households?

Our office sends new applications to each campus (English and Spanish) each summer. The campus must give each child an application for the current school year. Any applications from the previous year should be destroyed. We can only process applications for the current school year.

5. Are households that have not reapplied for the current school year notified before the eligibility expires?

Yes, the food service department begins making automated calls two weeks prior to the cut off day for expiring eligibilities. Beginning the 2009-2010 school year a PDF of students with expiring eligibilities will be e-mailed to the principals.

6. How long is the usual processing time?

USDA allows 10 working days to process applications. At the beginning of the school year it may take up to 8 or 9 days to process a paper application. We received approximately 25,000 applications the first two weeks of school. This is why it is important for families to submit the application as early as possible.

7. How long does the processing take if it is on-line?

Right now it takes one day to process an on-line application and transmit the information to the campus. If an application is received before 3:00 p.m. today the eligibility should be at the campus by tomorrow morning.

8. If a student does qualify for free, but charged until the approval, does the student need to pay back the amount previously charged?

Yes, the family is responsible for charges incurred before approval.