

PICKERINGTON LOCAL SCHOOLS
2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

300 Opportunity Way * Pickerington, Ohio 43147 * Phone (614)833-3645 * Fax (614)833-3649

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The goal of Pickerington Local School's food service program is to improve the health and education of our students and staff by providing nutritionally sound, balanced meals. Menus are available in all school offices and cafeterias. Elementary lunch (1-4) is \$2.00; secondary lunch (5-12) is \$2.25; reduced-price lunch is \$.40. Breakfast at Tussing, Heritage, Fairfield, Diley, Harmon, Tollgate Middle and Ridgeview is \$1.25; reduced-price breakfast is \$.30.

Free/Reduced-Price Meals: Your children may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. If you wish to apply for meal benefits, please read the instructions and complete the enclosed application; detach application and return to your child's school. **Use one application for all students in your household.** Foster students need a separate application. We cannot approve an application that is not complete.

Children receiving SNAP (formerly food stamps) or OWF are eligible for free meal benefits. If your total household income is the same or less than the amounts shown on the Income Chart, your child may receive free or reduced-price meals. A foster child is eligible to receive free meals regardless of your household income. If you receive WIC your child may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. You will need to fill out an application. Homeless, runaway and migrant children may get free meals. Please call the school or your homeless or migrant coordinator to see if your child(ren) qualify. You may apply even if you or your child(ren) are not a U.S. citizen.

When filling out an application you must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends.) You must include yourself and all children who live with you. You must include income from everyone living in the household, related or not. Call **866-711-7341** to check to see if your child's application is approved. **We will notify you in writing only if your application is denied.**

Verification: School officials may ask you at any time during the school year to provide proof of eligibility.

Fair Hearing: Contact Food Service if you do not agree with the decision on your application or the results of verification. If you are not satisfied after speaking to Food Service, you may ask for a fair hearing by writing Vince Utterback, Business Manager, Pickerington Local Schools, 90 East St., Pickerington, OH 43147, or call 614-833-2110.

Reapplication: You may apply for meal benefits anytime during the school year. If you are not eligible now but have a decrease in household income, become unemployed, have an increase in household size, or receive SNAP (formerly food stamps) or OWF for your child, you may reapply.

Confidentiality: Food Service will provide information about your child's eligibility to other school officials. This information is used to determine if your child is eligible for a waiver of school fees, pay to play fees, or other programs. **Please check the boxes yes if you do want this information shared. Check no if you do not want this information shared.**

Last Year's Eligibility: Children who were approved last year must have a new application approved this year to continue receiving meal benefits. **New applications must be received in the Food Service office no later than September 21, 2011 or your child will be dropped from the program.**

Special Dietary Needs: All meals served in our cafeterias meet meal pattern requirements and national dietary guidelines; however, if a child has a disability that prevents eating regular school meals, we will make doctor prescribed substitutions at no extra charge. If you believe your child has special dietary needs due to a disability, you may contact the Food Service Director, Judy Riley, at 614-833-3645.

Free Health Care: Children eligible for meal benefits may also be eligible for free health care coverage through Ohio's Healthy Start & Healthy Families programs. Call 800-324-8680 or check <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/bcps/hshf/index.stm> for more information. If you have an Ohio Medicaid Card, you are already receiving these services.

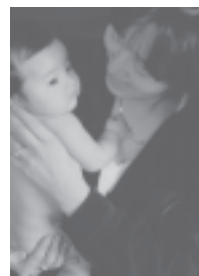
Non-discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you have other questions or need help, call:
614-833-3645

Si Necesita ayuda, por favor llame al telefono:
614-833-3645

Si vous voudriez d'aide, contactez nous au numero:
614-833-3645

Does your child qualify for the School Meals Program?
If so, your family may qualify for free health coverage!



Healthy Start & Healthy Families

Healthy Start offers free health care coverage for kids (birth to age 19) and pregnant women.

Healthy Families offers free health care coverage for the entire family - parents AND kids.

Healthy Start & Healthy Families Covers:

Doctor Visits
Hospital Care
Immunizations
Substance Abuse

Prescriptions
Vision Services
Dental Care
Mental Health

And Much More!

For more information or an application, call:

1-800-324-8680 (a free call!)

TDD 1-800-292-3572

Monday - Friday 7 am to 8 pm

Saturday - Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm

