

## Food Service Department

Maraiah Popeleski Tilley, RDN  
Food Service Director

March 1, 2023

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT CHANGES TO SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EFFECTIVE March 1, 2023 free meals for all students to resume**

Dear E.O. Smith Families,

Recently the State of Connecticut allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the State Department of Education (CSDE) for the Free School Meals for Children grant. This is great news for E.O. Smith students.

***Beginning, Wednesday March 1, 2023, a breakfast and a lunch meal will be available to every student at no cost. Free meals will continue until the end of the 22/23 school year.***

***Each student will receive one breakfast and one lunch per day at no cost. Additional meals will be charged according to the chart below. A la carte items, such as snacks, extra entrees and some beverages will be an additional charge.***

You may add money to your child's account online by visiting <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1595/Food-Services> or send cash/check to school to give to the cafeteria staff. If you would like to add money to your child's account you do not need their lunch ID. Once you get to the town payment portal you will only need to enter their name. You can leave the lunch ID portion blank.

	<b><i>Mansfield Elementary School</i></b>		<b><i>Mansfield Middle School</i></b>		<b><i>E.O. Smith High School</i></b>	
	<b><i>Breakfast</i></b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	<b><i>Breakfast</i></b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	<b><i>Breakfast</i></b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>
<b><i>First Meal</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>	<b><i>free</i></b>
<b><i>Second Meal</i></b>	<b><i>\$1.30</i></b>	<b><i>\$2.75</i></b>	<b><i>\$1.50</i></b>	<b><i>\$3.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$2.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$3.50</i></b>

**All families should consider submitting an application for Free or Reduced-Cost Meals**

regardless if they think they qualify. Families who have submitted an application requesting free or reduced meals since the start of the 22/23 school year should have received notification of their status by this time. If you submitted an application and have not received communication from the food service department, please email us at [foodserve@mansfieldct.org](mailto:foodserve@mansfieldct.org) or call 860-429-7824 for assistance. You may still apply for free and reduced meals or reapply (with proof of income for reapplicants) if your situation has changed. We have attached an application to this communication for your convenience. Here is a link to a video that explains how to apply: <https://vimeo.com/777367788>

We appreciate the opportunity to provide meals to the E.O. Smith community and welcome your feedback, questions and concerns. Please feel free to email us at [foodserve@mansfieldct.org](mailto:foodserve@mansfieldct.org) or call 860-429-7824.

Sincerely,

Maraiah Popeleski-Tilley, RDN  
Food Service Director

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.











## Addendum C: Information on SNAP

Agency	Phone number	Areas served
The Access Community Action Agency (Access)	860-450-7400	Windham and Tolland Counties
Alliance for Community Empowerment (Alliance)	203-366-8241	Greater Bridgeport Area and Upper Fairfield County
Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH)	203-387-7700	Greater New Haven Area
The Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Inc. (CAAWC)	203-744-4700	Northwestern CT and Lower Fairfield County
Community Renewal Team, Inc. (CRT)	860-560-5600	Hartford and Middlesex County
Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (HRA)	860-225-8601	New Britain and Bristol Areas
New Opportunities, Inc. (NOI)	203-575-9799	Greater Waterbury, Meriden, and Torrington Areas
Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)	860-889-1365	Southeastern CT- New London County
Training Education and Manpower, Inc. (TEAM)	203-736-5420	Naugatuck Valley

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of affirmative action/ equal opportunity for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of age, ancestry, color, civil air patrol status, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status or workplace hazards to reproductive systems, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes.

Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 505, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, [levy.gillespie@ct.gov](mailto:levy.gillespie@ct.gov).

This document is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Forms/FreeRed/AddendumC.pdf>.





## Does Your Family Need Health Insurance?

Connecticut offers low-cost or free coverage!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Is your child protected by health insurance? If not, your school and the State of Connecticut want to help. Connecticut's HUSKY Health program, for example, pays for doctor visits (including physical exams), prescriptions, emergency care, vision and dental care, mental healthcare, special healthcare needs and more. It's for children under age 19 in families under specific income limits. Approximately 360,000 Connecticut children now have their healthcare covered by the HUSKY Health program. **There are two parts to the HUSKY Health program for children:**

- I. **HUSKY A** (or Medicaid) - For children in families with limited income. Parents, relative caregivers and pregnant individuals may also be eligible.
- II. **HUSKY B** (or Children's Health Insurance Program) - For uninsured children in families with higher incomes. Pregnant individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid due to immigration status may qualify for HUSKY B-Prenatal Care.

**You can apply for and enroll in HUSKY A or HUSKY B any time of the year.**

- To apply **online**, please visit [AccessHealthCT.com](https://AccessHealthCT.com)
- To apply by **phone**, please call **855-394-2428** (If you are deaf or hearing impaired, you may use the TTY at 1-855-789-2428 or contact us with a relay operator.)
- For general information about HUSKY Health, please visit [www.ct.gov/Husky](https://www.ct.gov/Husky)

Your child needs YOU to stay healthy, too!

When you apply for HUSKY Health for your child, see what Access Health CT has to offer you.

Most Connecticut residents can enroll at any time, so you should not wait to apply if you need healthcare coverage. Some coverage options require that you enroll during an Open Enrollment Period (usually November 1–January 15) or a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) if you have a Qualifying Life Event (see below for more information).

There are now more no-cost coverage options available, including the new Covered Connecticut Program. The best way to see what you qualify for is to contact Access Health CT today.

**What is a Qualifying Life Event?** Qualifying Events include:



Losing your coverage due to job change/loss



Marriage



Permanent move to Connecticut



Pregnancy, birth, adoption or foster care



Change in tax dependent status as a result of Divorce, or other Legal Decree or Court Order



Newly eligible/ineligible for Premium Tax Credit (a type of financial help) due to a change in income

**Loss of Coverage Due to Other Circumstances:**

- Losing coverage you had through your spouse or parent
- Expiration of COBRA
- No longer eligible for HUSKY Health
- No longer eligible for Cost-Sharing Reduction Plan (a type of financial help)

**For More Information, visit [AccessHealthCT.com](https://AccessHealthCT.com)**