

Tillamook Early Learning Center

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is intended for parents or guardians of children enrolled at a child care center. **Tillamook Early Learning Center** offers healthy meals to all enrolled children as part of our participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP provides reimbursements for healthy meals and snacks served to children enrolled in child care. Please help us comply with the requirements of the CACFP by completing the attached Confidential Income Statement. In addition, by filling out this form, we will be able to determine if your child(ren) qualifies for free or reduced price meals.

- 1. Do I need to fill out a Confidential Income Statement for each of my children in day care?** Complete and submit one CACFP Confidential Income Statement for all children in your household only if they are enrolled in the same center. We cannot approve a form that is not complete, so be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill out all required information. **Return the completed form to: Tillamook Early Learning Center, 1100 Miller Avenue, Tillamook OR, 97141, (503) 842-5730.**
- 2. Who is eligible for free meals?** Children in households getting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) are eligible for free meals. Foster children and children enrolled in Head Start based on income are also eligible for free meals. Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free meals.
- 3. Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low-cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Guidelines shown on this application.
- 4. May I fill out a form if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for meal benefits offered at the center or the day care home.
- 5. Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people in your household (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you) who shares income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
- 6. How do I report income information and changes in employment status?** The income you report must be the total gross income listed by source for each household member received last month. If last month's income does not accurately reflect your circumstances, you may provide a projection of your monthly income. If no significant change has occurred, you may use last month's income as a basis to make this projection. If your household's income is equal to or less than the amounts indicated for your household's size on the attached Income Chart, the family day care home or center will receive a higher level of reimbursement. Once properly approved for free or reduced price benefits, whether through income or proof of benefits as supported by a current SNAP, TANF, FDPIR case number, you will remain eligible for those benefits for a period not to exceed 12 months. You should, however, notify us if you or someone in your household becomes unemployed and the loss of income during the period of unemployment causes your household income to be within the eligibility guidelines.
- 7. What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally earn. For example, if you normally earn \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only earned \$900, put down that you earn \$1000 per month. If you normally earn overtime, include it, but not if you only earn it sometimes.
- 8. What if I have foster child(ren)?** In certain cases foster children are eligible for free or reduced price meals regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Households wishing to apply for such benefits for foster children should contact **Tillamook Early Learning Center, 1100 Miller Avenue, Tillamook OR, 97141, (503) 842-5730.**
- 9. We are in the military; do we include our housing and supplemental allowances as income?** If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative and you receive the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance, do not include these allowances as income. Also, in regard to deployed service members, only that portion of a deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household will be counted as income to the household. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.
- 10. Centers charging for meals only (Pricing programs). Will the information I provide be verified? Maybe.** We may ask you to send written proof to verify the information you submitted on the form. **What if I disagree with the decision about the information I complete on this form?** You should talk to your sponsoring organization. You may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Tillamook Early Learning Center, 1100 Miller Avenue, Tillamook OR, 97141, (503) 842-5730.**

In the operation of child feeding programs, no person will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you have other questions or need help, call **(503) 842-5730.**

Sincerely,

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Letter to Household