## **Parent Checklist for Food Service:**



Add money to the food service account(s) for each of your students. You can pay cash or check in the office or through our online payment sytem.



See the August menu. Posted on the school website. Discuss with your student(s)



See instructions "How to fill out Free/Reduced Application"



If your student(s) have allergies, complete an allergy form and return it to the office. They will make sure the Nutrition Director receives it.

For ease of budgeting here is the - Food Service Price Breakdown - See grid below (copy can be found on our website):

Month SY 25-26	Breakfast \$	Lunch K-6th	Lunch 7th - 9th	Reduced Breakfast	Reduced Lunch
Daily Price	\$1.50	\$2.20	\$2.60	.30¢	FREE
August	\$19.50	\$28.60	\$33.80	\$3.90	FREE
September	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$52.00	\$6.00	FREE
October	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$52.00	\$6.00	FREE
November	\$25.50	\$37.40	\$44.20	\$5.10	FREE
December	\$22.50	\$33.00	\$39.00	\$4.50	FREE
January	\$27.00	\$39.60	\$46.80	\$5.40	FREE
February	\$27.00	\$39.60	\$46.80	\$5.40	FREE
March	\$28.50	\$41.80	\$49.40	\$5.70	FREE
April	\$27.00	\$39.60	\$46.80	\$5.40	FREE
May	\$22.50	\$33.00	\$39.00	\$4.50	FREE
Total SY 25-26	\$259.50	\$380.60	\$449.80	\$51.90	\$0.00



## How to fill out the Free/Reduced Application:

We encourage EVERYONE to fill out the application. This does NOT affect the results of other school applications.

- This information also helps families to qualify for other programs that are based off of the free/reduced meal benefits such as PEBT (summer rounds or any future rounds if that happens).
- Applications are important because they affect a variety of programs for our school including Title I funding.

Your student(s) benefits from last year only carry over for 30 days into the new school year. You MUST reapply every year. New benefits are NOT retroactive. Approved application benefits will be applied as of the application submit date.

## Free/Reduced lunch application online steps:

1. Go to our school website: <u>syracuseartsacademy.org</u>	
2. On the home page, hover your mouse over the computer icon to be redirected.	, click on 'Aspire

- 3. Type in your username and password.
  - If you have not set up your own username and password, then please click on request a username below the login box. You will need your student's ID number and birth date to proceed. ID numbers are located on school schedules and fee statements, or you can call the school and we will gladly look it up for you. The system will walk you through the steps to create your own Username and password to your student; they will have their own. Student permissions are different from those given to parents and guardians.
- 4. Select one of your students.
- 5. Click on the Free/Reduced Meal Application icon in the right-hand column above the Lunch Account Balance. The system will take you through the application process. <u>Only</u>

one application needs to be completed per family. (For your SAA students, if you have children that go to other non-SAA schools you will need to fill one out there too.)

6. If you have any questions regarding the application process you may contact our school, or email the Nutrition Director - April at: aempey@saacharter.org

## Tips:

- Make sure to include ALL members of your family. Even non-SAA students. The
  benefits will only apply to your SAA student, but it is important for the
  application process to include everyone in your household.
- Ensure all your contact information is correct; address, email, name is very important to complete your application, and communicate your results.
- Entering income can be tricky.
  - o If you are military you must include your housing stipend.
  - Do not guess or round your income. You must enter your GROSS income exactly as you see it on your pay stub.
  - The frequency of the pay is important. Bi-weekly = every other week / Twice a month = 2 set pay days during the month / Yearly should only be used in VERY rare situations. Putting the wrong frequency means your income is being calculated incorrectly. Please reach out with any questions.
  - All income for the household needs to be included.
  - o Any unique situations feel free to email April for guidance.
- If you are receiving state benefits already there is a chance that the state will download the information for your benefits automatically. They are in the process of communicating this information to us. Once the information is downloaded I will send out letters of confirmation.
- Once you receive a letter with your application results make sure ALL your SAA students are listed on the letter.
- You should receive a letter with your application results within 30 days of your application date. You will receive an email within 10 days with your application results.
- If you receive your results and feel there was a mistake please reach out to our Nutrition Director to go over the information that was entered into your application.
- If there is ever a change in your household income or an addition to your family you can reapply at any time throughout the school year.

Paper copies are available upon request in the office.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.