



BREMOND ISD

Home of the Champions!

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Bremond ISD Transitions Back to Application Requirement for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Back to School and Back to Normal in the Cafeteria

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress authorized spending that allowed schools to serve free meals for all students. Those funds are not authorized to continue for the 2022-2023 school year. As a result, Bremond ISD must return to charging for school meals and offering free and reduced-price meals based on student eligibility. Starting on 08/01/2022, Bremond ISD will begin distributing letters and applications to the households of the children in the district about eligibility benefits. Families are encouraged to complete the Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals and return the completed form to any school office or cafeteria.

The application will determine a child’s eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and may assist in the determination of eligibility for other state or federal benefits. Only one application needs to be completed per household. Schools will notify the household of the child’s eligibility. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) administers school nutrition programs in Texas and offers an eligibility calculator at www.SquareMeals.org/ProgramEligibility.

Reduced-Price Meal Income Eligibility Guidelines					
Family Size	Annually	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$25,142	\$2,096	\$1,048	\$967	\$484
2	\$33,874	\$2,823	\$1,412	\$1,303	\$652
3	\$42,606	\$3,551	\$1,776	\$1,639	\$820
4	\$51,338	\$4,279	\$2,140	\$1,975	\$988
5	\$60,070	\$5,006	\$2,503	\$2,311	\$1,156
6	\$68,802	\$5,734	\$2,867	\$2,647	\$1,324
7	\$77,534	\$6,462	\$3,231	\$2,983	\$1,492
8	\$86,266	\$7,189	\$3,595	\$3,318	\$1,659
For each additional family member add:					
	+ \$8,732	+ \$728	+ \$364	+ \$336	+ \$168

Christina Puente
 Director of Child Nutrition Services

601 W. Collins St
 Bremond, TX 76629
 254-746-7145 FAX 254-746-7726

Daryl Stuard
 Superintendent of Schools

Decisions regarding payment for school meals are made at the national-government level, not by the school nutrition team or TDA. The dedicated staff at Bremond ISD is looking forward to serving healthy, balanced meals to students in the new school year. These meals, whether paid, free, or reduced-price, offer a good source of nutrition for children.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

Income Eligibility

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical or Automatic Eligibility

2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Program Participant Eligibility

3. Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster
4. Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to Christina Puente, Child Nutrition Director, 601 W. Collins St., Bremond TX 76629, 254-746-2087. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

1. Names of all household members
2. Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
3. Last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for "No Social Security number"
4. Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Participant Eligibility

Bremond ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. BISD Child Nutrition Department will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels they should can contact Christina Puente, Child Nutrition Director, 254-746-2087.

Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Christina Puente, Child Nutrition Director, 254-746-2087.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide

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on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

Determining Eligibility

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Christina Puente, Child Nutrition Director will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Daryl Stuard, BISD Superintendent, 254-746-7145.

Unexpected Circumstances

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines. In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability.

Lunch Meal Pricing

Meals are priced as a unit and consist of 1 entrée, 2 vegetables, 1-2 fruits, 1 bread, and 1 milk. Any combination of 3-6 different items that include a fruit or vegetable will be considered a lunch. Ala carte prices will be charged if less than 3 items are selected. Student qualifying for the federal meal program receive their meal at the free or reduced price, additional meals or ala carte items may be purchased at the set rate. Payments will be accepted at school or online at <https://www.myschoolbucks.com>

New Meal Prices for the 2022-2023 School Year

Student Breakfast	\$2.25
Reduced Price Breakfast	\$0.30
Adult Breakfast	\$3.20
Elementary Student Lunch	\$3.00
Secondary Student Lunch	\$3.20
Reduced Price Lunch	\$0.40
Adult Lunch	\$4.50

Ala Carte Purchases

Students may purchase Ala carte items (extras) such as fruit, juice, extra milk, and snack items for an additional charge. If you wish to restrict or limit the amount of Ala carte purchases, please contact the Child Nutrition Director at cpuente@bremondisd.net so a block or limit can be placed on the meal account.

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Special Dietary Needs

All special dietary requests must be supported with a written request from the child's physician before **any** food substitutions can be made. Please contact Christina Puente, the School Nutrition Director at cpuente@bremondisd.net if you have any questions or needs to make the department aware of.

Charging for Meals

Students will be allowed to charge up to the set limit. After the limit has been reached, students will be provided a sandwich, fruit, vegetable and milk as an alternate meal until the outstanding charges have been paid. Students with a negative balance will not be allowed to purchase any *extras* until they have a positive balance on their account to pay for the extras. If a student has a negative balance but brings the amount needed to purchase a meal, they can purchase a meal that day; however, the purchase of extras will still not be allowed.

Low Account Balance Notification

When student accounts reach a low balance limit, the cashier will verbally remind the student that they will need to bring money. BISD students will receive weekly notice of low balances through a letter sent home in their weekly folder. Voice notification will be made to the student's household if there is a negative account balance. This increases parent awareness without relying on the student to convey this important information.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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