

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Interim National Drought Council

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of interim national drought council meeting.

SUMMARY: The Interim National Drought Council (Interim Council) was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Interim Council's purpose is to coordinate activities between and among Federal Agencies, States, local governments, tribes and others. All meetings are open to the public; however, seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

DATES: The Interim Council will meet on April 5, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Williamsburg Room of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 12th and Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC. All times noted are Eastern Daylight Time. The primary focus of this meeting will be to discuss actions and reports of the subcommittees and other Interim Council business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leona Dittus, Executive Director, Interim National Drought Council, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 6701-S, STOP 0501, Washington, DC, 20250-0501 or telephone (202) 720-3168; FAX (202) 720-9688; internet leona.dittus@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the MOU is to establish a more comprehensive, integrated, coordinated approach toward reducing the impacts of drought through better preparedness, monitoring and prediction, risk management, and response to drought emergencies in the United States. The Interim Council will

encourage cooperation and coordination between and among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and others, relative to preparation for and response to serious drought emergencies. Activities of the Interim Council include providing coordination to: (a) Resolve drought related issues, (b) exchange information about lessons learned, and (c) improve public awareness of the need for drought planning and mitigation measures. The Interim Council is co-chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture or her designee, and a non-federal co-chair, Ms. Ane D. Deister, Executive Assistant to the General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, representing urban water interests. Administrative staff support essential to the execution of the Interim Council's responsibilities shall be provided by USDA. The Interim Council will continue in effect for 5 years or until Congress establishes a permanent National Drought Council.

If special accommodations are required, please contact Leona Dittus, at the address specified above, by COB March 30, 2001.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on March 15, 2001.

James R. Little,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 01-6935 Filed 3-20-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child Nutrition Programs—Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the Department's annual adjustments to the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals or free milk for the period from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. These guidelines are used by schools, institutions, and facilities participating in the National School Lunch Program (and Commodity School Program), School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program. The

annual adjustments are required by section 9 of the National School Lunch Act. The guidelines are intended to direct benefits to those children most in need and are revised annually to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert M. Eadie, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, FNS, USDA, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, or by phone at (703) 305-2620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This action is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

These programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.553, No. 10.555, No. 10.556, No. 10.558 and No. 10.559 and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7 CFR Part 3015, Subpart V, and the final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983.)

Background

Pursuant to sections 9(b)(1) and 17(c)(4) of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1) and 42 U.S.C. 1766(c)(4)), and sections 3(a)(6) and 4(e)(1)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772(a)(6) and 1773(e)(1)(A)), the Department annually issues the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced price meals for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR Part 210), the Commodity School Program (7 CFR Part 210), School Breakfast Program (7 CFR Part 220), Summer Food Service Program (7 CFR Part 225) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (7 CFR Part 226) and the guidelines for free milk in the Special Milk Program for Children (7 CFR Part 215). These eligibility guidelines are based on the Federal income poverty guidelines and are stated by household

size. The guidelines are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk in accordance with applicable program rules.

Definition of Income

“Income,” as the term is used in this Notice, means income before any deductions such as income taxes, Social Security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions and bonds. It includes the following: (1) Monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions or fees; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) Social Security; (5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; (6) net rental income; (7) public assistance or welfare payments; (8) unemployment compensation; (9) government civilian employee or military retirement, or pensions or veterans payments; (10) private

pensions or annuities; (11) alimony or child support payments; (12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; (13) net royalties; and (14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts and other resources that would be available to pay the price of a child’s meal.

“Income,” as the term is used in this Notice, does not include any income or benefits received under any Federal programs that are excluded from consideration as income by any legislative prohibition. Furthermore, the value of meals or milk to children shall not be considered as income to their households for other benefit programs in accordance with the prohibitions in section 12(e) of the National School Lunch Act and section 11(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1760(e) and 1780(b)).

The Income Eligibility Guidelines

The following are the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be effective from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The Department’s guidelines for free meals and milk and reduced price meals were obtained by multiplying the year 2001 Federal income poverty guidelines by 1.30 and 1.85, respectively, and by rounding the result upward to the next whole dollar. Weekly and monthly guidelines were computed by dividing annual income by 52 and 12, respectively, and by rounding upward to the next whole dollar. The numbers reflected in this notice for a family of four represent an increase of 3.52% over the July 2000 numbers for a family of the same size.

Authority: (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1)).

Dated: March 14, 2001.

George A. Braley,
Acting Administrator.

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INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
(Effective from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002)

Household size	Federal Poverty Guidelines			Reduced Price Meals - 185%			Free Meals - 130%		
	Annual	Month	Week	Annual	Month	Week	Annual	Month	Week
	48 CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM AND TERRITORIES								
1.....	8,590	716	166	15,892	1,325	306	11,167	931	215
2.....	11,610	968	224	21,479	1,790	414	15,093	1,258	291
3.....	14,630	1,220	282	27,066	2,256	521	19,019	1,585	366
4.....	17,650	1,471	340	32,653	2,722	628	22,945	1,913	442
5.....	20,670	1,723	398	38,240	3,187	736	26,871	2,240	517
6.....	23,690	1,975	456	43,827	3,653	843	30,797	2,567	593
7.....	26,710	2,226	514	49,414	4,118	951	34,723	2,894	668
8.....	29,730	2,478	572	55,001	4,584	1,058	38,649	3,221	744
For each add'l family member add	+3,020	+252	+59	+5,587	+466	+108	+3,926	+328	+76
ALASKA									
1.....	10,730	895	207	19,851	1,655	382	13,949	1,163	269
2.....	14,510	1,210	280	26,844	2,237	517	18,863	1,572	363
3.....	18,290	1,525	352	33,837	2,820	651	23,777	1,982	458
4.....	22,070	1,840	425	40,830	3,403	786	28,691	2,391	552
5.....	25,850	2,155	498	47,823	3,986	920	33,605	2,801	647
6.....	29,630	2,470	570	54,816	4,568	1,055	38,519	3,210	741
7.....	33,410	2,785	643	61,809	5,151	1,189	43,433	3,620	836
8.....	37,190	3,100	716	68,802	5,734	1,324	48,347	4,029	930
For each add'l family member add	+3,780	+315	+73	+6,993	+583	+135	+4,914	+410	+95
HAWAII									
1.....	9,890	825	191	18,297	1,525	352	12,857	1,072	248
2.....	13,360	1,114	257	24,716	2,060	476	17,368	1,448	334
3.....	16,830	1,403	324	31,136	2,595	599	21,879	1,824	421
4.....	20,300	1,692	391	37,555	3,130	723	26,390	2,200	508
5.....	23,770	1,981	458	43,975	3,665	846	30,901	2,576	595
6.....	27,240	2,270	524	50,394	4,200	970	35,412	2,951	681
7.....	30,710	2,560	591	56,814	4,735	1,093	39,923	3,327	768
8.....	34,180	2,849	658	63,233	5,270	1,217	44,434	3,703	855
For each add'l family member add	+3,470	+290	+67	+6,420	+535	+124	+4,511	+376	+87