



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR FREE & REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Valley Mills ISD announces its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the current income eligibility guidelines. A copy of the policy is available for review upon request at each school/site or the central office.

Beginning August 12, 2026, VMISD will distribute letters to households of children in the district or service area explaining eligibility benefits and any actions households need to take to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are available at each campus office and online:

ENGLISH APPLICATION	SPANISH APPLICATION
	
Open English application	Abrir solicitud en español

VM ELEMENTARY	VM JH/HS
102 W Avenue C Valley Mills, TX	1 Eagle Way Valley Mills, TX



WHO MAY QUALIFY

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

1	INCOME Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels.
2	CATEGORICAL (AUTOMATIC) ELIGIBILITY Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).
3	PROGRAM PARTICIPANT Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster.
4	PROGRAM PARTICIPANT Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY

For households that qualify based on income, an adult in the household must complete an application for free and reduced-price meals and return it to:

Sara Martinez, Business Manager
1 Eagle Way, Valley Mills, TX 76689
sara.martinez@vmisd.net
Or complete the application online using the links on page 1.

The adult completing the application must provide:

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

CATEGORICAL OR PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Valley Mills ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. VMISD 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 believes it should have, or any household that wishes to decline benefits, should contact:

Sara Martinez, Business Manager | [254-932-5210](tel:254-932-5210) | sara.martinez@vmisd.net



2026-2027 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

Use the household size and total household income to review the applicable free or reduced-price eligibility level.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	TOTAL INCOME									
	ANNUAL		MONTHLY		TWICE-MONTHLY		BI-WEEKLY		WEEKLY	
NO. OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	FREE	REDUCED	FREE	REDUCED	FREE	REDUCED	FREE	REDUCED	FREE	REDUCED
1	\$20,748	\$29,526	\$1,729	\$2,461	\$865	\$1,231	\$798	\$1,136	\$399	\$568
2	\$28,132	\$40,034	\$2,345	\$3,337	\$1,173	\$1,669	\$1,082	\$1,540	\$541	\$770
3	\$35,516	\$50,542	\$2,960	\$4,212	\$1,480	\$2,106	\$1,366	\$1,944	\$683	\$972
4	\$42,900	\$61,050	\$3,575	\$5,088	\$1,788	\$2,544	\$1,650	\$2,349	\$825	\$1,175
5	\$50,284	\$71,558	\$4,191	\$5,964	\$2,096	\$2,982	\$1,934	\$2,753	\$967	\$1,377
6	\$57,668	\$82,066	\$4,806	\$6,839	\$2,403	\$3,420	\$2,218	\$3,157	\$1,109	\$1,579
7	\$65,052	\$92,574	\$5,421	\$7,715	\$2,711	\$3,858	\$2,502	\$3,561	\$1,251	\$1,781
8	\$72,436	\$103,082	\$6,037	\$8,591	\$3,019	\$4,296	\$2,786	\$3,965	\$1,393	\$1,983
For each additional family member, add	+\$7,384	+\$10,508	+\$616	+\$876	+\$308	+\$438	+\$284	+\$405	+\$142	+\$203

These guidelines are based on 130% (free) and 185% (reduced) of the federal poverty guidelines and are effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027.



USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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, 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.

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 [USDA Form AD-3027](#), 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
2	FAX	(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442
3	EMAIL	Program.Intake@usda.gov

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

QUESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE

Sara Martinez, Business Manager
Valley Mills Independent School District
1 Eagle Way, Valley Mills, TX 76689
[254-932-5210](tel:254-932-5210) • sara.martinez@vmisd.net