

DISCLAIMER: District-related distribution of meals will be completed by June 30, 2020 however the YMCA will be holding its lunch program through Aug. 21, 2020.

Free and reduced meal information

If current circumstances have changed or reduced your family income, there is help for families by applying for Free and Reduced lunches through the district's website. It secures benefits for students when school is in session and also assists the school district with securing resources for school closure meal programs to help your family. This free service enables families to receive program benefits faster than the traditional paper application. Information to apply online can be found, here: [Food service](#). You may also contact mrider@basd.net or lfrye@basd.net for student ID information used on the application form.

Free breakfast and lunch options

Bellefonte Area School District is working with the YMCA of Centre County that will provide "drop and go" bagged lunches, which include a lunch and snack in one pack for children. It will be available noon to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday through August. Visit this link to learn more: [YMCA meal programs](#)

- Beaver Farms Apartment Complex
- Continental Courts (playground pavilion)
- Governor's Gate Apartments
- Governors Park
- Logan Fire Company
- Marion Walker Elementary School
- Pleasant Hills Apartments
- Pleasant Gap Elementary School
- Pleasant Gap Fire Company (carnival grounds)
- Trinity United Methodist Church
- YMCA in Bellefonte

Through the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option, free meals are also available for families and children ages 18 and younger. A breakfast and lunch will be provided **noon to 1 p.m. March 24-27 at Marion-Walker Elementary School**. These meals are provided on a first come, first serve basis. Children must be present for meals to be provided. Please see this link for more information about safety protocol and what the meals will include: [Free meals](#)

BASD-provided meals

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Bellefonte Area School District provides free meals to families with ready-to-cook meal options. Food Service Director Laura Frye said the meals are prepared by district staff and can be picked up at the same meal locations by the YMCA. Meals includes a packaged entree with directions for heating, in addition to multiple sides and snacks.

Miscellaneous

The state Department of Education is also offering a Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer Program. Please click here to learn more: [P-EBT](#). According to PDE, it provides temporary benefits to families of school-aged children who would receive free or reduced-priced meals if school was in session. For each day school is closed, eligible families can receive the equivalent of the free high rate for lunch and the

severe need rate for breakfast. Specifically, a family will receive \$5.70 for each eligible school-aged child in their family for each day school has been closed since March 16, 2020.

Other services are in the works as the district and other local agencies work to get approval from the state. You may find other food assistance resources available, here: [Food pantries](#)

**Every "drop and go" site must be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, which is the overseer of the program from the United States Department of Agriculture. The YMCA is also looking for volunteers to help in this effort. If interested, please contact Mel Curtis at mcurtis@ymcacc.org. All volunteers who distribute meals also wear masks and gloves.*