

Aug 1st, 2024

Dear Parents,

We are pleased to advise that we will be continuing our successful **Hot Lunch Program** for this school year. This letter will answer many questions and provide specific details on how to register for the program. Please note that to ensure your child receives hot lunch on the first day of school, your hot lunch order must be submitted by **Thursday, August 29th**.

What is the hot lunch program?

A Federally Subsidized Hot Lunch Program that will bring quality, nutritious meals directly to your child's school. Qualification, which is based on household income, may entitle your child to a free or reduced-price hot lunch. Students who do not qualify for the government subsidy will still be able to purchase hot lunches at the full price.

What grades will participate?

The program will be available for students in grades **K-12**.

What kind of food will be served?

Our healthy, well-balanced menu includes whole grains and a variety of fruits and vegetables. We encourage your children to build a healthy plate – to fill half the lunch tray with fruits and vegetables, select whole grains, and choose fat free or low-fat milk. We hope that you will also encourage your child to make these healthy eating choices. All food will be *Cholov Yisroel* and delivered fresh by our food provider..

How often will hot lunch be served?

Hot lunches will be served four times a week, **Mondays thru Thursdays**, starting the first day of school, Sept 5th, and continuing until June 19th – the last day of school. This year we will continue the **pizza only option on Tuesdays**. The pizza meal is a full meal complete with milk, fruit and vegetables. Elementary students receive one slice of pizza, and one and a half slices will be served to Middle and High School students.

How can my child receive these lunches?

To start receiving lunches beginning the first day of school, you must prepay at the beginning of the school year for the entire school year. If you miss the sign-up period at the beginning of the year, you may contact the Hot Lunch coordinator for the late sign up process. If you sign up for the program, and you are not satisfied for any reason, you may cancel lunches for your child at any time, and receive a refund for the remaining days of the program.

How do I know if I am eligible for free or reduced meals?

Household size and income determine eligibility. The applicable forms are attached to this email and are also available on our website <https://bnosyisroel.org/parent-resources/hot-lunch-resources/> Those households whose income level is above the indicated levels are not eligible for free or reduced meals, but may purchase meals at full price.

How much will the Hot Lunch Program cost?

The annual charge per child for full lunch is \$425 for Elementary School Students and \$475 for Middle and High School Students. The Pizza only option is \$105 for Elementary School Students and \$130 for Middle and High School Students. Middle school and High school students are served larger portions, extra vegetables, and fruit daily.

How do I pay? This year, forms and payments can be accessed via [Parent Locker](#).

What forms do I need to fill out? If you are eligible for free or reduced meals then you must fill out the form for free or reduced eligibility called the FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEAL BENEFIT APPLICATION. (MBA) This form is also available [here](#).

When are the forms and payment due?

All forms are due by **Thursday, August 29th** to guarantee hot lunch on the first day of school.

What do I do if I have questions or I am unsure if I qualify for free or reduced meals? For any questions about the program please contact the Bnos Yisroel Food Service Director, Sara Lea Wetstein at 443-212-8344 or email

hotlunch@bnosyisroel.org

Looking forward to another wonderful and healthy school year,



Ahuvah Heyman

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1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

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05/05/2022

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