

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 27, 2016

**MEDIA CONTACT**  
Office of Communications  
602-542-4296  
[PIO@azdes.gov](mailto:PIO@azdes.gov)

## **School Lunch and Breakfast Programs Help Kids Succeed**

*Better food outside the classroom generates better learning within*

**PHOENIX** – As a part of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program, participating Arizona schools offer eligible students the healthy breakfasts and lunches they need to fuel their minds and bodies for learning. The program provides eligible students with reduced-price, or even free, nutritionally-balanced meals. This nutritional balance not only serves students' appetites, but also their learning, giving them the necessary energy to be more successful in the classroom.

Your student may qualify for reduced-price or free meals under the program if you:

- Are eligible for unemployment benefits;
- Earn at or below the current Income Eligibility Guidelines;

Your student automatically qualifies for free meals, if you:

- Receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits;
- Receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Cash Assistance benefits

To apply for either of these programs, please contact your student's school to complete the mandatory application. The school will then process your application and present you with an eligibility determination. It is acceptable to apply for lunch/breakfast benefits any time throughout the school year.

###

*The Arizona Department of Economic Security makes Arizona stronger by helping Arizonans reach their potential through temporary assistance for those in need, and care for the vulnerable.*

Visit our website at <https://des.az.gov> and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)