



## *Harford County Public Schools*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Harford County Public Schools Accepting Applications for Free and Reduced Price Meals**

*Application made available early this school year*

The economic downturn has impacted many in Harford County. To help ease the burden on families, Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) has made available the 2011-2012 Application for Free and Reduced Priced Meals before the official start of classes on August 29, 2011.

Households that feel they may be eligible for meals at a free or reduced price are encouraged to submit an application as soon as possible. Applications for the new school year may be mailed or faxed (410-638-4201) directly to HCPS Food and Nutrition Services, 101 Industry Lane, Forest Hill, MD 21050, or dropped off at any school location. Applications may be submitted anytime throughout the school year. Benefits are non-transferrable to Harford County from other states or counties.

“There is no better time than now to get the application to our office,” said Gary A. Childress, supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services for HCPS. “Students without an approved application for the 2011-12 school year will pay the regular price of their meals until the application is approved.”

Students approved last year for free or reduced-price meals will remain eligible for the first 30 days of this school year. However, all parents must complete a new application during this time period to continue to receive the benefit for the remainder of the school year.

Families can obtain an application from their child’s school office or on the school system’s website at [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org). Questions regarding the program or application process may be directed to HCPS Food and Nutrition Services at 410-638-4078.

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