



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KALEI'OPU'U ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
94-665 Kaaholo Street
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
Telephone (808) 675-0266 Fax (808) 675-0269

July 19, 2021

Dear parents and guardians:

The Department is pleased to announce that all students at Hawai'i's 257 public schools statewide will receive free breakfast and lunch meals for the entirety of the 2021-22 school year, thanks to a nationwide waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The waiver aims to limit the possible spread of COVID-19 at schools across the country by eliminating meal payment transactions in school cafeterias, settings where students and cashiers may not be able to maintain proper social distancing.

If you have not yet purchased meal credits for this upcoming school year via the EZ Meal App or through your school, no further action is required. If you have already purchased meal credits in advance, you may choose to leave funds in the account for the following school year or request a refund through the school.

Students will only receive meals at their school of enrollment. One meal per breakfast session and one per lunch session will be free of charge. Additional meals or meal items taken at the same session will be charged a normal rate.

Parents must continue to submit their Free and Reduced Price Lunch Meal Benefits applications online using the EZMealApp (EZMealApp.com), or paper version, where applicable. Submitting these applications directly impacts families and other school programs, such as:

- **Bus Transportation**
- **Ensuring a smooth transition for Free/Reduced lunch status for SY 2022-23. (Families will not be charged for meals during the first month of school)**
- **Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) food assistance**

For more information, please review the Frequently Asked Questions page at <https://bit.ly/HISchoolMealsFAQ> or contact the School Food Services Branch at (808) 784-5500. More information on the USDA waiver is available at <https://bit.ly/HISchoolMeals>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alike Ahu".

Alike Ahu
Principal