

## Regarding Free School Lunches for the Third Child Onwards in Chiba City for the 2024 FY

To help alleviate the financial burden on households raising multiple children, the third child and onwards will be exempt from paying the school lunch fee if they are of compulsory education age and attending a municipal school in Chiba City.

In order to be exempt from paying the fee, **an application must be submitted every fiscal year.**

**Even if your child was exempt from paying the school lunch fee in 2023, an application still needs to be submitted for the 2024 fiscal year.** If your child(ren) is eligible, please follow the instructions for the application procedure as follows.

### Parents/Guardians Eligible for the Exemption

For the 2024 FY, parents/guardians who meet all the conditions ①-④ stated below are eligible for the exemption.

In regards to your children, the free lunch fee exemption will apply to **the third child and onwards (counting from the oldest child).**

- ① You are raising **three or more children** who were born **before April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.**
- ② Of the children mentioned in ①, **the third child and onwards (counting from the oldest child)** is receiving school lunches at a municipal elementary school or junior high school (including the first three years of integrated junior high and high schools), or a special education school (elementary and junior high school departments only).
- ③ The child(ren) is not in receipt of public assistance system or academic supports (excluding the school attendance support grant) for the school lunch fees (**if you are currently in the middle of applying for public assistance, please apply for this grant as well free of charge.**)
- ④ The guardian has **no overdue school lunch fees** from the 2023 fiscal year (please apply after completely paying their full amount).

### How to Apply

For online applications

Please avail of the convenient “Chiba City Online Application Service” to apply



Follow the instructions and apply on the dedicated website\* (use the QR Code on the right or use the URL below).

\*Website for online applications

For online applications, it is necessary to attach a photo of the back of the application form and the front of the health insurance card.

For written applications

- ① Fill in the necessary information on the “**Free School Lunches for the Third Child Onwards Application Form**” (for the fiscal year 2024) and submit one per household. Please fill in your child’s school and grade as of April 2024 (or at the time of application for those applying after the application deadline.).
- ② For children listed on the application form who are not enrolled in a Chiba municipal elementary/junior high/high/special education school as of April 2024 (or at the time of application for those applying after the deadline), attach a copy of the front of a valid health insurance card on the designated section of the back side of the application. ※When attaching, please ensure that the numbers on the insurance card are **covered** so that they cannot be seen. For guidelines on how to cover the numbers, please visit our website and check the application form\*.
- ③ To protect your personal information and to prevent documents from falling out, put the documents into an envelope and seal it with glue.
- ④ If submitting directly to the school, write down the grade, name of the eligible child, parent/guardian’s name and “**令和6年度 給食費減免申請書**” (**Free School Lunches for the Third Child Onwards Application Form for the 2024 FY**) on the front of the envelope (if submitting by post, it is not necessary to write the child’s name and grade on the front of the envelope).
- ⑤ After checking the deadlines and other information on the back side of this form, bring the envelope with the application form inside to the school of the child whose name was written on the envelope as mentioned in ④.

Additionally, you can also mail the form or bring it directly to the Health and Physical Education Division, as stated on the back side.

However, if the application is submitted by post, a receipt will not be issued. If you wish to receive confirmation of delivery, please use registered post.

Search

Chiba City School Lunch Fee Exemption for the Third Child and Onwards

(\*Website with English and Chinese Information:

<https://www.city.chiba.jp/kyoiku/gakkokyoiku/hokentaiiku/03-3ikoukyusyokuhimusyoku.html>)

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### Application Period to Receive the Exemption from the Start of the Fiscal Year in April 2024

If you would like to receive the exemption starting from the first bill at the beginning of the fiscal year, please submit your application by the application deadlines stated below.

- ① Households without a child(ren) in their 1<sup>st</sup> grade of elementary/junior high school: Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2024
- ② Households with a child(ren) in their 1<sup>st</sup> grade of elementary/junior high school: Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2024

\*If the third child and onwards is an incoming 1<sup>st</sup> grade student, please submit the application to the school they will be attending once the new fiscal year starts.

### Applying after the Application Deadline (Final Application Date for the 2024 FY: Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2025※)

- ※ If your child meets the above requirements ( ① and ②) but the application deadline has passed, please submit the application form as soon as possible.
- ※ If the application is received and approved by the 20th of each month (the day before if it falls on the weekend or a holiday), the school lunch will be provided free of charge from the next month (when billed). If the application is accepted retroactively, any overpaid amount will be refunded at a later date.
- ※ Please be aware that if the application for the 2024 FY is not received by the application deadline (February 28<sup>th</sup> 2025), then your child(ren) will not be exempt from paying the school lunch fee this year.

If the following cases apply to you, you may still be eligible for the exemption as long as you meet the prerequisites.

- ※ ...Moved to Chiba City from somewhere else      ...Increase in the number of children you're taking care of (elementary school students and above)
- ※ ...Paid off any outstanding lunch fees      ...Stopped receiving school support fees or public assistance
- ※ If you have any special circumstances or question about your application, please contact the Health and Physical Education Division below.

### Decision Notice

A decision notice with the results of your application will be distributed as follows:

- If you applied during the initial application period: around June 2024
- If you applied after the initial application period deadline: one to two months after your submitted your application (\*if there are no issues with the information provided in the application form)

Children whose applications have been accepted will be exempt from paying the school lunch fee during the applicable period.

Please note that if the school lunch fees or other fees are usually paid by account transfer, only the sports mutual aid premium and school fees will be charged to the account (excluding the school lunch fees).

### **In the case that your child cannot receive the school lunch due to an allergy or other reason**

Children (third child and onwards) who are in receipt of the school lunches and are unable to eat it due to an allergy or other reason, and are bringing their own lunch to school\*, are also eligible to apply for the exemption from the school lunch fee. If the requirements are met and the application approved, you will be informed about the grant amount you are eligible to receive in regards to the difference between the cost of the full school lunch fee and the cost of bringing alternative lunches to school.

\*If the above underlined information applies to your situation and you did not receive the payment information for the 2023 fiscal year, please contact us before the end of February 2024.

【Website with English and Chinese information:

<https://www.city.chiba.jp/kyoiku/gakkokyoiku/hokentaiiku/kyusyokusagaku.html> 】

### **Change in Application Information after Submission**

After the exemption has been confirmed, if there is any change to the information provided on your application please submit a “Notification of Change in Circumstances for the Exemption of the School Lunch Fee” (学校給食費減免状況変更届) as soon as possible (downloadable from the website).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Health and Physical Education Division below.

#### **Contact Information:**

Public Accounting Section, Health and Physical Education Division, Chiba City Board of Education, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, High Rise Building, Chiba City Hall, 1-1 Chibaminato, Chuo Ward, Chiba City 〒260-8722 Tel:043-245-5909