## Community Roots Academy

# 2023-2024 Meal Charge Policy

## **Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals**

Our school participates in the National School Lunch Program, and offers free meals to all students. All families are encouraged to submit a meal application by the first week of school – one application per household is needed. Families can at any time submit a new application if there is a change in the household income or family household number. Applications can be accessed in the front office or downloaded from our website at <u>www.linqconnect.com</u>

## **Meal Charge Policy**

Community Roots Academy does not charge full paid or reduced-price students for meals. Families are still alerted of their eligibility, but are aware that they will not need to pay if their child wants meals.

## **Student Pricing**

Students will not be charged for meals.

Per California Education Code Section 49557.5:

- Students will not be denied meals for any reason
- Students will be served reimbursable meals, not an alternative meal
- No student will be overtly identified as receiving free or reduced-price meal benefits

#### **Dietary Needs**

- Any students with food allergies must complete the dietary needs form accompanied by a physician's note, each school year. This form can be obtained through the office.

# Notification of the Meal Charge Policy

The meal charge policy will be provided in writing to all families at the start of each school year and to families transferring to the school midyear. The meal charge policy will also be provided to all school or district-level staff responsible for policy enforcement.

#### **USDA Nondiscrimination Statement**

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <u>https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-05</u>

<u>08-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</u>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

# 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: <u>Program.Intake@usda.gov</u>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.