

Looking Out For Your Legal Rights®

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Every day, schools offer healthy meals to students through the school nutrition programs. The National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program are government-funded meals programs. *Page 1*

The anti-bullying law requires schools to prevent, report, investigate, and respond to bullying. *Page 4*

Filing a joint tax return means more than just signing your name at the bottom of the return. *Page 8*

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*Cuáles son sus
derechos legales*
La versión en
español la encontrará
al reverso.

School Nutrition Programs Your Child Could Be Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals at School

EVERY DAY, schools offer healthy meals to students through the school nutrition programs. The National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program are government-funded meals programs. All meals must meet good nutritional standards. Starting this year, more schools will be serving breakfast in school.

How do the programs work?

- Meals are available to all students.
- Some children pay the advertised price, but low- and moderate-income children qualify for free or reduced-price meals.
- The maximum charge for reduced-price meals is 30 cents for breakfast and 40 cents for lunch.
- Children who qualify for free or reduced-price meals are not publicly identified in any way.

Why eat school meals?

- School meals help family food budgets to go further.
- Healthy meals and snacks are provided from breakfast to the end of the school day.



Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

- School meals are proven to help children do better in school.

How does a child qualify?

A few schools in New Jersey provide meals to all students automatically, but most do not. If your child’s school does not, then there are two ways to qualify:

1. If a family currently receives food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or participates in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the child is eligible for free school meals. Migrant, homeless, or runaway children also qualify. Most students in this category should be automatically enrolled.
2. If a household’s total income is below certain amounts, a child can eat free or at a very reduced price. The school determines who qualifies based on a completed application.

Income Limits

The charts on page 3 show the income limits for both free and reduced-price meals.

How and when can I apply?

Applications can be made at any time during the school year—simply contact your child’s school office.

An application may not be required at all, depending on what other public benefits a family receives. Also, applications are not needed for migrant, homeless, and runaway children. Contact your child’s school for more information. Applications must be signed by the child’s parent or guardian and must include either a Social Security number or a check mark in the box marked “none” on the application. Not having a Social Security number will not affect whether a family qualifies and will be kept private.

Only one application is required each year, even if income changes. And one application is required for each family, not one for each child. Once the application

Looking Out For Your Legal Rights®

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If a household’s total income is below certain amounts, a child can eat free or at a very reduced price. The school determines who qualifies based on a completed application.

is returned to the school, the family should be contacted within 10 days.

If a family doesn’t qualify now, they can apply again later if their income goes down during the year, if they start getting food stamps or other benefits, or if family size increases.

What happens if I don’t pay for my child’s meals and we owe money to the school?

In New Jersey, if your child doesn’t qualify for free meals, a school district can deny a meal to a student if they have an unpaid bill, but they must provide you with a notice and opportunity to pay first. In the event that a school district determines that a student’s school breakfast or school lunch bill is in arrears, the district shall contact the student’s parent or guardian to provide notice of the arrearage and shall provide the parent or guardian with a period of 10 school days to pay the amount due. If the student’s parent or guardian has not made full payment by the end of the 10 school days, then the district shall again contact the student’s parent or guardian to provide notice that school breakfast or school lunch, as applicable, shall not be served

**Income Eligibility Guidelines
July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019**

Household Size	Free Meals Maximum Family Income		
	Annual	Month	Week
1	\$15,782	1,316	304
2	\$21,398	1,784	412
3	\$27,014	2,252	520
4	\$32,630	2,720	628
5	\$38,246	3,188	736
6	\$43,862	3,656	844
7	\$49,478	4,124	952
8	\$55,094	4,592	1,060
For each add'l family member, add	+ \$5,616	+ 468	+ 108
Household Size	Reduced-Price Meals Maximum Family Income		
	Annual	Month	Week
1	\$22,459	1,872	432
2	\$30,451	2,538	586
3	\$38,443	3,204	740
4	\$46,435	3870	893
5	\$54,427	4,536	1,047
6	\$62,419	5,202	1,201
7	\$70,411	5,868	1,355
8	\$78,403	6,534	1,508
For each add'l family member, add	+ \$7,992	+ 666	+ 154

to the student beginning one week from the date of the second notice unless payment is made in full. □

*By Maura Sanders, LSNJ Chief Counsel,
Public Benefits Programs*

New Jersey's Anti-Bullying Law

BULLYING is a serious problem facing school-aged children. In recent years, there has been increasing attention and awareness directed toward the issue of bullying in schools.

In September 2011, the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights* took effect. The law requires schools to prevent, report, investigate, and respond to bullying. The law also requires training for teachers, school staff, and school board members. School districts must have district anti-bullying coordinators, school anti-bullying specialists, and school safety teams (which includes a parent of a student). Every year, school districts must report bullying incidents to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE). The NJ DOE gives each school district and each school in the district a grade on how the school district or school is carrying out the requirements of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. School districts are required to post the report and the grade their schools have received on their website.



An example of bullying is insulting or putting down a student or group of students.

What is bullying?

Under NJ law, bullying is any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication that is reasonably perceived as being motivated by either an actual or perceived characteristic, such as:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- Ancestry
- National origin
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity and expression
- Mental, physical, or sensory disability
- Any other distinguishing characteristic.

In order to be bullying, the conduct must:

- Be something that a reasonable person under the circumstances should know would have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or a student's property, or putting a student in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself or his or her property;
- Insult or put down a student or group of students; or
- Create a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with their education or severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

Bullying can be a series of incidents or a single incident. Students are not the

only people who can bully others. School officials, staff, and teachers can also commit acts of bullying.

***The bullying definition is confusing.
What does it mean?***

A child who is being bullied is the target of unwanted or uninvited aggression by a person who has a desire to hurt someone. It is one-sided. A child being bullied often has no ability to make it stop. This is not the same thing as conflict. Conflict usually involves two or more people who are equally engaged in the behavior and have the ability to make it stop. A school must still address this conduct but will follow the policies and rules in the student code of conduct.

Does my child have to be physically harmed?

No, your child does not have to be physically harmed. Bullying does not have to be a physical act such as hitting, kicking, etc. It could involve name calling, teasing, threats, spreading rumors, breaking up friendships and texting.

Does bullying have to take place at school?

No. Bullying can take place on school property or at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or in some situations off school grounds. See **Cyberbullying** in the box on page 7.

***My child attends a charter school.
Does the law apply to her?***

Yes, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights applies to charter schools. If your child attends a charter school, the charter school must comply with the same rules and requirements.



Bullying can take place on school property or at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or in some situations off school grounds.

***I think my child is being bullied.
What should I do?***

Your child's school is required to have a bullying policy. It should be available online, and copies should be given to parents every year. You should review the policy. The policy should include a procedure for reporting a bullying incident. You may verbally report bullying, but you should also send a letter. Your letter should include specific details about the bullying incident. You should also state when you reported the bullying and the name of the person you told about the bullying. Also include your concerns and any specific actions you want the school to take. Make sure to keep a copy of the letter.

I have told the school my child is being bullied. What do they have to do?

Within one day of getting a verbal report about an incident of bullying, the school must investigate that incident. The school's anti-bullying specialist must conduct the investigation. An anti-bullying specialist is the school staff person responsible for preventing, identifying, and responding to incidents of bullying in the school. He or she may be

the guidance counselor, school psychologist, or another specially trained school staff member.

Is the school allowed to decide no investigation is needed?

Before starting an investigation, a school district can decide whether the complaint, assuming all the facts are true, falls within the protection of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. The school district policy must include a procedure for how a school makes this decision. A parent who disagrees has the right to file an appeal with the school district’s Board of Education and the New Jersey Department of Education’s Office of Controversies and Disputes.

My child’s school is investigating. What happens next?

The investigation should be completed as soon as possible, and no later than 10 days from the day the bullying was reported in writing. Within two days of the investigation’s completion, the results must be reported to the superintendent. The superintendent will decide what action to take. Examples of possible action that could be taken include:

- Providing intervention services like counseling or a peer support group
- Setting up district, school, or class-based anti-bullying programs
- Disciplinary action
- Changing class schedules or transportation
- School transfers
- Taking or recommending other appropriate action.

The results of the investigation must be reported to the Board of Education (Board) no later than the date of the next Board meeting following the completion of the investigation. Information on action taken or recommended by the superintendent must also be reported to the Board. At the next Board meeting, the Board must issue a written decision, agreeing with, rejecting, or changing the superintendent’s decision.

How will I know the results of the investigation?

Parents or guardians of students who are involved in the incident are entitled to receive information about the investigation. The information should be provided in writing within five school days of when the investigation is reported to the Board and should include:

- The nature of the investigation
- Whether evidence of bullying was found
- Whether discipline was imposed
- Whether services were provided.

Parents may request a hearing before the Board. Parents must make this request within 60 days of receiving the written information about the investigation. The hearing must be held within



Bullying does not have to be a physical act such as hitting. It may also be an act that causes emotional harm.

Cyberbullying

CYBERBULLYING is a form of bullying that occurs by using electronic devices like cell phones, computers, iPads, and other types of electronic devices. Sadly, cyberbullying is a common form of bullying impacting school-aged children. It can take many forms. Examples of cyberbullying include inappropriate or unwanted text messages; showing images or video of someone without their permission online; inappropriate use of social media; and filling an email inbox with disgusting images, hurtful emails, or spam.

Often, but not always, cyberbullying involves using Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, and other forms of social networking. Cyberbullying can happen at any time and cause a person to be harmed anywhere they are, whether they are at home or in their community. New Jersey students are protected from cyberbullying under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights.



10 business days of the request. Parents may want to request a hearing if they do not agree with the results of the investigation or actions that will be taken. The Board may hear from the school's anti-bullying specialist about the incident, the discipline or services that the specialist recommends, or programs that will be started.

What can I do if I do not agree with the Board of Education's decision?

A parent may appeal the Board's decision to the Commissioner of Education no later than 90 days after the Board issues its decision. For more information on how to file an appeal to the Commissioner of Education, see *Frequently Asked Questions: Controversies and Disputes* on the New Jersey Department of Education website at https://www.state.nj.us/education/genfo/faq/faq_candd.htm.

Schools may also be held liable under the New Jersey Law Against Discrimina-

tion if they knew or should have known about the bullying but failed to take reasonable action to address it. Complaints can be made to the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights (DCR) within 180 days of the occurrence of a bullying incident. See *How to File a Complaint* (from the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights) at <https://www.nj.gov/oag/dcr/filing.html> for more information. A complaint can also be filed in New Jersey Superior Court within two years of the occurrence.

If you have any questions about the information in this article or think that your rights or your child's rights have been violated, contact LSNJLAWSM, Legal Services of New Jersey's statewide, toll-free legal hotline, at 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You may also apply for help online at <https://lsnjlawhotline.org>. □

By Rachel R. Elkin, Supervising Attorney, Education Representation Project, Legal Services of New Jersey

Joint Tax Returns and Innocent Spouse Relief

DID YOU KNOW that, even if you are married, you do not have to file the same tax return as your spouse? You can choose to file jointly or separately. There are pros and cons to each method of filing, depending on your individual circumstances. (See the table on page 10 for more information on each option.)

Filing a joint return

Filing a joint tax return means more than just signing your name at the bottom of the return. If you sign and file a joint return with your spouse and the information is false or wrong, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has the right to collect the tax that is due from either of you. The IRS does not have to try to figure out who made the mistake or who failed to report all income. The government may take legal action against both of you together or against either of you individually. Even if you have divorced or separated since you filed your tax return, the IRS has the right to choose how it will try to collect the taxes. The IRS op-



If you sign and file a joint return with your spouse and the information is false or wrong, the IRS has the right to collect the tax that is due from either of you.

erates according to federal law and is not bound to follow the orders of a state law divorce judgment stating that one spouse must pay all the taxes. If you decide to file a joint tax return, it is clearly in your best interest to carefully review the return before you sign it, since you can be held liable for everything in it.

What do I do if I've filed a joint return and am held responsible for my spouse's or former spouse's error?

There are three ways that you can be relieved from paying taxes if you believe you are not responsible for a mistake related to a joint return. In each situation, you must file an IRS Form 8857 as soon as you become aware of the mistake or problem. ***Form 8857 must be filed no later than two years after the date on which the IRS first attempts to collect the tax.***

Option 1: Innocent Spouse Relief

The first way that you can be relieved from responsibility for paying taxes is by way of *innocent spouse relief*. To qualify for this relief, you must meet the following three conditions:

- You must have filed a joint return. That return must contain an understatement of tax directly related to your spouse's (or former spouse's) unreported income, or your spouse's or former spouse's incorrect deductions or credits.
- You must show that, at the time you signed the return, you did not know and had no reason to know that there was an understatement of tax.

- You must show that, taking into account all the facts and circumstances, it would be unfair to hold you liable for the unpaid tax.

The IRS will consider all of the facts and circumstances of each case to determine whether it is unfair to hold you responsible. Some factors that the IRS considers are:

- Whether you benefitted from the understatement;
- Whether your spouse, or former spouse, deserted you; and
- Whether you have been divorced or separated.

The IRS will not grant your request for innocent spouse relief if they discover proof that you and your spouse (or former spouse) transferred property to one another or a third party, such as a creditor, ex-spouse, or business partner, with the intent of defrauding the IRS.

Option 2: Relief by Separation of Liability

The second way that you can be relieved of responsibility for paying taxes is called *relief by separation of liability*. To request relief by separation of liability, you must have filed a joint return, and you must prove that:

- You are widowed, divorced, or legally separated from the spouse with whom the joint return was filed; and
- You were not a member of the same household as this spouse at any time during the 12-month period prior to the date the request for relief was filed.

Under this type of relief, the IRS holds each spouse responsible for a portion of the unpaid tax, depending on the facts of the individual situation. The relief discussed here will not apply to any part of the understatement if you knew about the mistakes on the tax return.

Note: There is a domestic abuse exception. Even if you knew about the errors on the tax return, you may still qualify for relief by separation of liability if you were the victim of domestic violence before signing the return, and if you did not challenge the information on the return because of fear of retaliation.

Option 3: Equitable Relief

The third way that you can be relieved of the responsibility for paying taxes is by way of *equitable relief*. Equitable relief is intended to help people who do not qualify for either of the first two options. To qualify for equitable relief, you must meet *all* of the following conditions and prove that:

- You are not eligible for innocent spouse relief or relief by separation of liability.
- You and your spouse or former spouse did not transfer assets to each other as part of a fraudulent scheme.
- Your spouse or former spouse did not transfer property to you to avoid the payment of tax.
- You did not file or fail to file a return with the intent to commit fraud.
- You did not pay the tax.
- Taking into account all the facts and circumstances, it would be unfair to hold you responsible for the unpaid tax.

TYPE OF RETURN	PROS	CONS
Married filing jointly	Lower tax rate	Each spouse is responsible for the payment of the tax
	All income, deductions, and credits are reported on one return	After you file the return, you cannot change to the filing status of married filing separately
		To get relief from payment of tax, interest, or penalties, you must apply for relief from the IRS
Married filing separately	You are only responsible for the tax due on your income, and you are not obligated to pay tax on income your spouse earned	Higher tax rate
	After you file, you can change your mind and change your filing status to married filing jointly	You cannot take the credit for child and dependent care expenses
		You cannot take the Earned Income Tax Credit
		The child tax credit, retirement savings contribution credit, itemized deductions, and the deduction for personal exemption are all reduced
		If your spouse itemizes deductions, you cannot claim the standard deduction

- Your spouse or former spouse supplied the incorrect or incomplete information entered on the tax form.

Where can I go for more help?

The IRS can be very cynical when reviewing your claims for relief. For that reason, whenever possible, it is always best to use a professional when seeking tax relief. Legal Services of New Jersey’s Tax Legal Assistance Project may be able to help you. Call LSNJLAWSM, Legal Ser-

vices of New Jersey’s statewide, toll-free legal hotline, at 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529) and state that you need help with a tax situation. Hotline hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You may also apply for help online at <https://www.lsnjlawhotline.org>, and someone will get back to you within two business days. If you are not eligible for assistance from Legal Services, hotline staff will refer you to other possible resources. □

By Marcia Suarez, LSNJ Chief Counsel, Federal Tax



LSNJ's **CLEARING YOUR RECORD ONLINE (CYRO)** is a free online resource designed to help you expunge your criminal and juvenile records and provide you with valuable information on New Jersey's expungement law and the expungement process. **NOTE: The pro se tools available on CYRO will be updated to reflect changes in the expungement law effective October 1, 2018, which may increase your eligibility to expunge your record. Check back soon for more updates.**

CLEARING YOUR RECORD ONLINE

Expungement is designed to give those with one or very few offenses a fresh start by removing arrests and convictions from their criminal record. It is available in New Jersey to those who meet certain requirements.

LSNJ's **CLEARING YOUR RECORD ONLINE** provides several functions crucial to the expungement process:

- **Eligibility Interview**—will walk you through a series of questions and tell you whether you are eligible to expunge your adult or juvenile record.
- **Forms Creator**—using the information you provide, will generate forms you will need to file with the court for your expungement.
- **Instructional Videos**—provide step-by-step detailed information on the expungement process.



Other resources will give guidance on fee waivers and provide other information and links, in addition to our original expungement tool, the *Clearing Your Record* manual.



To access the program, please go to www.lsnjlaw.org and click on the blue **CLEARING YOUR RECORD ONLINE** icon located on the right side of the page.

If you need civil legal assistance, please feel free to call LSNJLAWSM, our legal hotline, at 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529) or visit our website, www.lsnjlaw.org.

Cuáles son sus derechos legales

Septiembre 2018

Publicado por los Servicios Legales de Nueva Jersey

Su hijo podría recibir comidas escolares gratuitas o a precios reducidos. *Página 1*

Los cambios a la ley de Nueva Jersey para la eliminación de los antecedentes, que serán efectivos a partir del 1 de octubre de 2018, podrían aumentar su elegibilidad para eliminar sus antecedentes penales. *Página 5*

*Looking Out
For Your Legal Rights*
Flip issue over for the
English edition of
*Looking Out for Your
Legal Rights.*

LOS PROGRAMAS DE ALIMENTACIÓN ESCOLAR: Su hijo podría recibir comidas escolares gratuitas o a precios reducidos

LAS ESCUELAS, por medio de los programas de alimentación, todos los días ofrecen comidas saludables a los estudiantes. El programa nacional para la alimentación escolar y el programa para el desayuno escolar, son programas financiados por el gobierno. Todos los alimentos distribuidos tienen que cumplir con buenos estándares nutricionales. A partir de este año, más escuelas estarán sirviendo desayunos en el plantel.

continúa en la página 2

El boletín de educación jurídica para los habitantes de Nueva Jersey

continúa de la página 1

¿Cómo funcionan estos programas?

- Todos los estudiantes tienen acceso a esta alimentación.
- Algunos niños pagan el precio fijado, pero los niños de bajos y moderados ingresos pueden recibir alimentos gratuitos o a menor precio.
- El costo máximo de una comida a un precio reducido es de 30 centavos por el desayuno y 40 centavos por el almuerzo.
- Los estudiantes que reciben alimentos gratuitos o a menor



Si el ingreso total de la familia está por debajo de las cantidades establecidas, el niño puede comer gratis, o a un costo inferior al costo fijado.

precio no serán identificados públicamente, en forma alguna.

¿Cuál es el propósito de comer las comidas brindadas por la escuela?

- La alimentación escolar permite que el presupuesto familiar para alimentos rinda más.
- Durante el día lectivo, se proporcionan desayuno, meriendas y almuerzos saludables.
- Estos alimentos son proporcionados para que los niños tengan un mejor rendimiento escolar.

¿Cómo puede un menor participar en el programa?

En Nueva Jersey, algunas escuelas ofrecen, de forma automática, alimentos a todos sus alumnos, pero no todas lo hacen. Si la escuela a la que asiste su hijo/a no lo hace, entonces hay dos formas de poder participar en el programa:

1. Si en la actualidad la familia del menor recibe cupones para

Cuáles son sus derechos legales

Con respecto a *Looking Out*

Looking Out for Your Legal Rights® es publicada 10 veces al año por los Servicios Legales de Nueva Jersey. Si usted es un cliente de los Servicios Legales, puede obtener una copia en la oficina de Servicios Legales de su localidad. También puede leer *Looking Out* en nuestro sitio Web www.lsnj.org/espanol.

Suscripciones

La suscripción cuesta \$20 dólares por año.

Números atrasados

Puede ver números atrasados en www.lsnj.org/espanol.

Cambio de dirección

Si se muda, envíenos su nueva dirección y una copia de la etiqueta pegada al último ejemplar de *Looking Out*.

Comentarios

Si tiene alguna sugerencia o comentario con respecto a *Looking Out*, nos gustaría oírlo. Envíe toda correspondencia a:

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Este boletín de noticias es sólo una información general. Si tiene un problema jurídico, usted debería ver a un abogado.

Una parte del costo de esta publicación se cubrió con la ayuda proporcionada por el fondo IOLTA del colegio de abogados de Nueva Jersey.

alimentos, ayuda temporal para familias necesitadas (TANF), o participa en el programa para la distribución de alimentos en las reservas indígenas (FDPIR), el menor cumple con los requisitos para recibir alimentación escolar gratuita. Los niños migrantes, los que no tienen vivienda y los fugados de sus hogares; también reúnen los requisitos. La mayoría de los estudiantes en esta categoría debe ser inscrito automáticamente.

2. Si el ingreso total de la familia está por debajo de las cantidades establecidas, el niño puede comer gratis, o a un costo inferior al costo fijado. La escuela, basándose en la solicitud, determina quién reúne los requisitos para participar.

Las gráficas a continuación muestran los límites en ingresos exigidos para recibir las comidas gratuitas y las de precio reducido.

¿Cuándo y cómo puedo solicitar?

La solicitud se puede presentar en cualquier momento durante el año escolar—simplemente contacte a la oficina en la escuela adonde asiste su hijo.

Dependiendo de qué otro auxilio público reciba la familia, tal vez no tenga que presentar una solicitud. De igual manera, no se necesita una solicitud en el caso de los niños migrantes, los que no tienen vivienda y los fugados de sus hogares. Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con la escuela a la que asiste su hijo. La solicitud tiene que estar firmada por el padre o madre del niño o el tutor del mismo y tiene que incluir un número de seguro social o

**Delineamientos de ingresos para la participación en el programa
Del 01 de julio de 2018 al
30 de junio de 2019**

Personas en la familia	Comidas gratuitas Ingreso familiar máximo en dólares		
	anual	mensual	semanal
1	\$15.782	1.316	304
2	\$21.398	1.784	412
3	\$27.014	2.252	520
4	\$32.630	2.720	628
5	\$38.246	3.188	736
6	\$43.862	3.656	844
7	\$49.478	4.124	952
8	\$55.094	4.592	1.060
Por cada miembro adicional, agregue	+ \$5.616	+ 468	+ 108
Personas en la familia	Comidas a precio reducido Ingreso familiar máximo en dólares		
	anual	mensual	semanal
1	\$22.459	1.872	432
2	\$30.451	2.538	586
3	\$38.443	3.204	740
4	\$46.435	3.870	893
5	\$54.427	4.536	1.047
6	\$62.419	5.202	1.201
7	\$70.411	5.868	1.355
8	\$78.403	6.534	1.508
Por cada miembro adicional, agregue	+ \$7.992	+ 666	+ 154

marcar la casilla que dice “none”, para indicar que no existe tal número. El no tener un número de seguro social no afectará que la familia participe y la información se mantendrá confidencial.

Sólo se exige presentar la solicitud una vez por año, incluso si hay cambios en los ingresos. La solicitud se hace una por familia y no por cada menor. Cuando la solicitud es entregada en la escuela, la familia recibirá noticias en un plazo de 10 días.

Si una familia no cumple con los requisitos ahora, esta puede solicitar de nuevo, si durante el año: sus ingresos bajan, comienza a recibir cupones para alimentos u otros auxilios o si aumenta el tamaño de la familia.

¿Qué ocurre si no puedo pagar las comidas del niño y le debo dinero a la escuela?

En Nueva Jersey, si su niño no reúne los requisitos para recibir alimentos gratuitos, el distrito escolar puede negarle la comida a un estudiante si los

padres no han pagado la cuenta, pero primero el plantel tiene que proporcionarles una notificación y darles la oportunidad de pagar. En el caso que el distrito escolar determina que la cuenta de los desayunos o almuerzos escolares de un estudiante no ha sido pagada, el distrito se pondrá en contacto con los padres o tutores de dicho estudiante para darles aviso del atraso y les dará a los padres o tutores un período de 10 días escolares para pagar el importe adeudado. Si al final de los 10 días escolares, los padres o tutores del estudiante no han efectuado el pago completo, entonces el distrito volverá a ponerse en contacto con dichas partes para darles aviso de que, a partir de una semana después de la fecha de la segunda notificación, a menos que se haya efectuado el pago en su totalidad, al alumno no se le servirá más el desayuno o almuerzo escolar, según corresponda.

Este artículo fue traducido del inglés por Al Moreno, director del servicio lingüístico en LSNJ



LSNJLAWSM
LA LÍNEA DIRECTA GRATUITA
Asesoramiento jurídico y recomendaciones
Para todo habitante de Nueva Jersey de bajos ingresos que reúna los requisitos.
Llame o solicite ayuda en línea si tiene problemas legales civiles.
LSNJLAWHotline.org
Visita nuestro sitio Web: www.LSNJLAW.org, que contiene ayuda legal.
LSNJLAWSM es operado por los Servicios Legales de Nueva Jersey. **JUSTICE**

¿Si no puedo encontrar un abogado, a dónde puedo acudir?

Llame a LSNJLAWSM, la línea directa gratuita de asistencia jurídica de los Servicios Legales de Nueva Jersey para todo el estado, al 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529) o solicite por medio de la Internet (sólo en inglés por el momento) en <https://lsnjlawhotline.org>. El horario de la línea directa es de lunes a viernes, desde las 8 de la mañana hasta las 5:30 de la tarde. Si no llena los requisitos para recibir asistencia de los Servicios Legales, la línea directa le enviará a otras posibles fuentes de información.



El programa de LSNJ **Cómo borrar los antecedentes penales en línea**, por sus siglas en inglés **CYRO**, es un recurso gratuito en la Internet diseñado para ayudarle a borrar sus antecedentes penales como adulto y como menor de edad y le proporcionará información valiosa sobre la ley y el proceso para la eliminación de los antecedentes en Nueva Jersey.

NOTA: Las herramientas disponibles en el manual CYRO se actualizarán para reflejar los cambios que se le hagan a la ley, y que serán efectivos a partir del 1 de octubre de 2018. Estos podrían aumentar su elegibilidad para la eliminación de sus antecedentes. Visítenos pronto para ver las actualizaciones.

CÓMO BORRAR LOS ANTECEDENTES PENALES EN LÍNEA

El programa está diseñado para dar a aquellos que tienen uno o muy pocos delitos, la oportunidad de un nuevo inicio al borrar de sus historiales las detenciones y condenas. Está disponible en Nueva Jersey a aquellos que cumplen ciertos requisitos.

El programa de LSNJ **CÓMO BORRAR LOS ANTECEDENTES PENALES EN LÍNEA** proporciona varias funciones cruciales para el proceso de eliminación:

- **La entrevista para determinar la elegibilidad**-le guiará a través de una serie de preguntas y le indicará si usted reúne los requisitos para eliminar sus antecedentes como adulto o como menor de edad.
- **El creador de formularios**-utilizando la información que usted proporcione, generará los formularios que usted tendrá que presentar ante el tribunal para la eliminación de sus antecedentes.
- **Los vídeos instructivos**-proporcionan paso-a-paso información detallada sobre el proceso.

Otros recursos le proporcionarán orientación sobre la exención de costas y otros enlaces e información, además de nuestro manual original *Cómo borrar los antecedentes penales*.



Para acceder al programa, visite el sitio www.lsnjlaw.org y pulse en el icono azul **CÓMO BORRAR LOS ANTECEDENTES PENALES EN LÍNEA** ubicado en el lado derecho de la página.

Si necesita asistencia jurídica civil, no dude en llamar a LSNJLAWSM, nuestra línea directa gratuita de asistencia jurídica, 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529) o visite nuestro sitio Web, www.lsnjlaw.org/sp.