

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 POLICY COMMITTEE  
4 RECOMMENDATION  
5 FOR  
6 HOUSE BILL NO. 3032

7 By: Lowe

8 POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

9 An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1,  
10 Chapter 255, O.S.L. 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section  
11 3-119.1), which relates to electronic applications  
12 for free or reduced-price meals; eliminating  
13 reference to optional applications; prohibiting minor  
14 children from being enrolled in school unless a  
15 parent or guardian fills out an application for free  
16 or reduced-price meals; requiring school district to  
17 provide applications during enrollment; allowing  
18 parents or guardians to opt out of the free or  
19 reduced-price meals programs; requiring the State  
20 Department to ensure compliance with certain notice  
21 mandates; requiring school districts to provide  
22 parents and guardians notice of certain enrollment  
23 essentials; providing exceptions; providing an  
24 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

21 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 255, O.S.L.

22 2024 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 3-119.1), is amended to read as  
23 follows:

1       Section 3-119.1. A. The State Department of Education shall  
2 make available to school districts an ~~optional~~ electronic universal  
3 application for free or reduced-price meals under the National  
4 School Lunch Act. The application shall at a minimum:

5           1. Enable parents and legal guardians to complete and  
6 electronically submit applications for free and reduced-price meals  
7 to the school districts in which their students are ~~enrolled~~  
8 enrolling;

9           2. Facilitate school districts in collecting and electronically  
10 submitting free and reduced-price meal applications to the State  
11 Department of Education; and

12           3. Allow for secure transmission of data necessary for  
13 eligibility and enrollment determinations for the Supplemental  
14 Nutrition Assistance Program.

15           B. ~~The provisions of this section shall not be construed to~~  
16 ~~require school districts, parents, or legal guardians to use the~~  
17 ~~electronic universal application provided for in subsection A of~~  
18 ~~this section~~ No minor child shall be admitted to any public school  
19 operating in this state unless and until an application for free or  
20 reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Act is completed  
21 by the child's parent or legal guardian and returned to the  
22 applicable school district. Applications required by this  
23 subsection shall be provided by the school district to each child's  
24 parent or legal guardian during enrollment or re-enrollment. In

1      lieu of an application for free or reduced-price meals, a child's  
2      parent or legal guardian may complete a form prescribed by the State  
3      Department of Education and provided by the school district to opt  
4      out of the application requirements of this subsection and  
5      participation in the free or reduced-price meals programs.

6      C. The State Department of Education shall ensure that each  
7      school district in this state provides, on the school district  
8      website and in any notice or publication prepared for parents  
9      regarding free or reduced-price meals, the following information  
10     regarding requirements for school attendance: "For school  
11     enrollment each year, a parent or legal guardian shall provide one  
12     of the following unless automatically qualified for free or reduced-  
13     price meals under federal law:

14     1. A completed application for free or reduced-price meals; or  
15     2. A completed and signed free or reduced-price meals program  
16     opt-out form".

17     D. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:  
18     1. School districts, schools, and enrolled students attending  
19     such schools that qualify for and participate in the Community  
20     Eligibility Provision (CEP) as provided in the federal Healthy,  
21     Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and in Part 245 of Title 7 of the Code  
22     of Federal Regulations, shall be exempt from the requirements of  
23     this section; and

1           2. Identified students as defined in Section 245.9 of Title 7  
2           of the Code of Federal Regulations, who are not subject to  
3           verification or are certified for free meals through means other  
4           than an application in accordance with federal law, shall not be  
5           required to fill out an application or opt-out form under this  
6           section.

7           SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

8           SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
9           of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
10          declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
11          be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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