

2021-2022 Backpack Buddy Program Parent Permission Slip

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to offer your student an opportunity to participate in the Houston Food Bank's Backpack Buddy program. Here's how it works:

- There is no charge for the food sacks to you or to the student.
- Every Friday afternoon at the school your child attends, your child will receive a sack full of nutritious food for the weekend. The food sacks are distributed as discreetly as possible and contains enough food to serve one child per weekend.
- Texas Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) products comprise a large percentage of the food sacks that are distributed to the Backpack Buddy participants. *
- Houston Food Bank staff will verify free and reduced lunch status of your student on Backpack Buddy Program during school visits.

*TEFAP rights and responsibilities are as follows:

Standards for participation in the Program are the same for everyone regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. You may appeal any decision made by the local agency regarding your denial or termination from the Program. If your application is approved, the local agency will make nutrition education available to you and you are encouraged to participate.

I, _____, _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

grant permission for the _____ to verify my
(School Name)

student(s)' Free and Reduced Lunch status to the Houston Food Bank staff and/or certified volunteers. I certify that I have read the permission slip in its entirety for the Backpack Buddy Program and would like my student(s) to participate unless I provide verbal or written consent to the school staff to discontinue. I understand that the food and backpacks cannot be *sold or used* for other purposes. I understand that providing my contact information below is optional to participate in community research and story collection conducted by Houston Food Bank. Any reports produced with the data collected will not identify individual information. I understand that I will not be denied for services if I wish to not provide contact information. I understand my rights and responsibilities as stated above.

Student ID Number:	Your Student's Name: * (Attending the same school)	Grade:	Student's Race/Ethnicity (Enter number from below):	Student Gender:

The Houston Food Banks respects your information and wants to make sure it remains private. All information provided will be used to learn about the community as a whole and no individual information will be shared. **Parent Contact Information (program surveys & stories):**

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Student's Race: (1) Asian (2) Black or African American (3) Hispanic or Latino
(4) Native Hawaiian or Other Island Pacific Islander (5) White/Caucasian (6) Other

Number of Household Members: _____
Number of children/minors under your custody (ages 0-18) : _____

Family Income (Annual): Less than \$23,606 \$23,607-\$31,894 \$31,895-\$40,182
 \$40,183-\$48,470 \$48,471- \$56,758 \$56,759+ I do not wish to share

Is anyone in your household currently receiving any of the following programs? (Please answer yes/no for each program)

SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program)

Yes No

School Lunch- free and reduced lunch

Yes No

Medicaid or CHIP (Childrens Health Insurance Program)

Yes No

SSI (Social Security Income)

Yes No

SSI (Social Security Income) Answers menu TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

Yes No

Have you ever used any of Houston Food Bank's other programs?

- Visited a pantry that is a partner of the Houston Food Bank
- Community Assistance Program (SNAP Application Assistance)
- Community Kitchen (culinary training program)
- Nutrition Education classes (teaching about healthy eating)
- Portwall Pantry (pantry located on-site at Houston Food Bank's main warehouse)
- School Market (pantries or markets located at middle and high school campuses)
- Kids Cafe (free afterschool and summer meals for children)
- I'm not sure
- I have never used any other Houston Food Bank services

If eligible, would you be willing to share about your experience participating in this program with a Houston Food Bank representative? Please note that this is completely optional and will not affect your eligibility for this program.

Yes No