



# You may NOT have to pay for School Fees or Field Trips

You don't have to pay fees for school supplies, field trips or other school fees if:

- ✓ Your child gets **free or reduced price school lunch, or**
- ✓ your family income is less than:

| Family size | Gross monthly income |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 1           | \$1,604              |
| 2           | \$2,159              |
| 3           | \$2,714              |
| 4           | \$3,269              |
| 5           | \$3,824              |
| 6           | \$4,379              |

Bigger families should add \$555 for each additional child.

**You must sign a paper** asking to not pay school fees. The school may send you this paper with the school lunch application. If you don't get one, ask for it. This paper is called, "**Request For Waiver Of School Fees.**" **Waiver** means the school gives up the right to collect a child's school fees.

Fill out the paper. Put a check mark in 2 places. This shows you don't want to pay for activities or school supply fees. Sign the paper and send it back to the school.

You should get a letter saying if your child will get the fee waiver. What if they turn you down? The letter must say why and who you can talk to about it.

### **Will others know your child doesn't pay fees?**

Only teachers or others who collect fees should know. The school can't legally do anything that shows others your child doesn't pay fees.

**Is this for high school or just for grade school?** It's for both.

**If your child gets the fee waiver, you DON'T have to pay for:**

- Fees for school supplies needed in a class the child takes for a grade or credit.
- Field trips and other activities during school hours
- Gym suits
- Sports taken for credit
- Band instruments, if band is for credit
- Security deposits
- Summer school
- Cap and gown for graduation
- Copies of a student's school records.

The school should make sure your child gets what she needs.

**You DO have to pay for:**

- Fees for activities outside the regular school day, unless the child must do them to get credit or a grade
- Fines for returning library books late
- Fines for losing or tearing up textbooks
- Fines for illegal parking at school.



### **The school will still ask you to pay for school fees or field trips**

Just write your child's name and "**Fee waiver**" on the paper. Send it back to the teacher.

### **What if your child still can't go on field trips or get what he needs?**

Talk to the teacher, the principal or the superintendent. Tell them your child has the fee waiver. Show them this paper. If this doesn't work, call Legal Aid for free legal help.

**Legal Aid Society 1-800-238-1443**

This information cannot take the place of advice from a lawyer. If you need legal advice, call a private lawyer or Legal Aid.