

# New Jersey Kosher Meal Distribution FAQs

In response to the Covid-19 crisis, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing free meals to all children age 18 and under. Teach NJ along with multiple partners have received approval for kosher meals at multiple distribution sites around the state. There is no charge for these meals. All households with children age 18 and under are eligible to participate in this USDA program. Due to the current health emergency, the income eligibility requirement has been waived.

**1. Who is eligible for the Kosher meal program?**

Any child ages 1-18 who is a New Jersey resident.

**2. Where is the funding for this food coming from?**

It is a federal program called the Summer Foods Service Program which is run through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the state.

**3. How is this free to everyone?**

The program's purpose is to provide nutritionally balanced meals to those that are income eligible. Due to the current pandemic, the income eligibility requirement has been waived so that more children can be fed in these difficult circumstances.

**4. Will the staff and volunteers be abiding by social distancing guidelines?**

Yes, there will be contactless delivery. You drive up and open your trunk, and the staff/volunteers will put the food directly into your trunk, then you drive away. They will be wearing proper PPE as well.

**5. Where are the meals prepared and what is the Kashrut certification?**

Gelbstein's Bakery located at 415 Clifton Ave. in Lakewood, NJ is presently under the supervision of the ועד דלייקוואוד הבשרות ועד – KCL and are accordingly kosher מן למהדרין, Pas-Bishul Yisroel, Pareve or Cholov Yisroel.



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**6. Where and when do we pick up meals?**

Please email [klymanr@teachcoalition.org](mailto:klymanr@teachcoalition.org) to determine the closest pickup location information to your home.

**7. If I register but do not want the meals, can I just not show up?**

No. It is important to pick up the meals if you have registered. The USDA only pays for claimed meals. Ordering meals and not picking them up is costly to the kosher program.

**8. Can I pick up meals for my children in multiple locations each week?**

No. The USDA Summer Food Program is designed to provide one breakfast and one lunch per day per child.

**9. Do I need to bring anything with me when I pick up meals?**

You do not need to bring any identification with you. We only ask that you have a sheet of paper with your last name and number of children to easily identify and manage the volume of cars.

**10. If my family is vegetarian, or if we have other dietary restrictions can I indicate a preference on the registration form?**

At this time, there will be only one distribution option. Some days the main course will be meat; on others, it will be pareve or dairy.

**11. Can non-kosher consumers pick up meals at these designated locations?**

Yes. The USDA Summer Food Program, at all sites, is open to all children 18 and under.

