June 10, 2022

Where Can Students Find Free Meals This Summer

With school being out for the summer, many parents are looking for resources to help them find summer meals for their children. Some Nevada school districts are offering summer meal programs to help families. Check out this statewide list with individual counties listed, including dates and times.

Summer Camps

Summer is here, and many families are looking for fun, exciting activities for their children. This resource provides information to some summer camps in Nevada. Many of these camps offer different options for families. Summer camps can create new friendships, and lasting memories for children.

Talk to Children About Violence - Tips for Parents and Teachers

Recent acts of violence in schools and other public places have been in the news. Some children may experience anxiety, or fear. Children may sense anxiety or tension from friends, family members or other adults. This resource will help parents or teachers to talk to children about violence.
Parents and school personnel can help children feel safe by establishing a sense of normalcy and security and talking with them about their fears.

Maintaining HOPE

Our lives are frequently filled with uncertainty and concerns about what the future holds. Many things remain outside of your control, it’s important to remember to maintain hope. If you’re having a hard time finding hope, here are some things to keep in mind: [Maintaining Hope in the Face of Uncertainty](#). On a positive note- Summer is here and that’s a time for families to do fun things together. Check out this resource [100 Summer Fun Ideas for Kids and Parents](#). Family fun for all to enjoy.

Condition of Education

Following is a statement from U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona on the National Center for Education Statistics’ “Condition of Education” 2022 report. The report summarizes the latest data on education and includes changes in enrollment from fall of 2019 through fall of 2020, the first year of schooling during the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the full report [here](#).

Office of Civil Rights Reviews

Federal education officials are taking steps to ensure that students with disabilities and their families can access school services. The U.S. Department of Education said that its Office for Civil Rights will “soon launch” 100 compliance reviews focused on digital accessibility. Read the article [here](#).

Protect Rights for Students with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Education announced plans to gather public input on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act on possible amendments to those regulations to strengthen and protect the rights of students with
Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in public and private programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance, including schools and postsecondary institutions. Read more here.

**Upcoming Webinars**

Great opportunities to increase your advocacy skills and improve education opportunities for your child. Register for these informative FREE trainings.

- Presented by Nevada PEP

**Restorative Practices in School: What Parents Need to Know**
Tuesday, June 14, 4pm - 5pm
REGISTER NOW

**Making the Most Out of Your Child's Early Intervention Services**
Wednesday, June 22, 2pm - 3pm
REGISTER NOW

**Bullies, Targets, and Bystanders: Responses That Work**
Thursday, June 16, 3:30pm - 4:30pm
REGISTER NOW

**Help Your Child Focus on Learning**
Wednesday, June 29, 4pm - 5pm
REGISTER NOW

Looking for more convenient times? Did you know our Free On Demand webinars are always available 24/7 in English and Spanish click here.

**What's New in School?**

**What is a Facilitated IEP Meeting?**
Facilitation gives parents and districts the chance to resolve their special education concerns on their own, in a less formal process, and is provided at no cost to the parent. A facilitated IEP meeting is the same as an IEP meeting, except that a facilitator joins the meeting. The facilitator helps with
in **English** and **Spanish**. This [video](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b) explains, the benefits of a facilitated IEP, and how to access a facilitated IEP. This short [video](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b) provides useful tips to get ready for your facilitated IEP meeting. Nevada PEP has [On-Demand](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b) trainings, the Introduction to Individualized Education Programs training has great information right at your fingertips. Registration is quick and easy and available at your convenience.

### New Age to Attend Kindergarten

Students entering kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year must meet the newly adopted age requirements for enrollment from the [Nevada Department of Education](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b). The updated [statute](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b), which went into effect on January 1, 2022, requires all kindergarten students to be five years of age on or before the first day of school. For the 2022-2023 school year only, any student who completed Pre-Kindergarten during the 2021-2022 school year who is five years of age on or before September 30, 2022, may still attend kindergarten.

### Social Emotional Resources

The Pyramid Model provides free resources to support Social and Emotional Learning. Recently, a several new resources have been made available in Spanish. The tip sheet and visual support such as *Cleaning Up My Toys* and the *Feeling Wheel* both now in Spanish. You can search resources by topic and language.

### Fun for Summer

Highlights Magazine has been around since 1946, filled with adventures, brainteasers, and, of course, the hidden pictures puzzles. It reflected the philosophy that children become their “best selves” by using their creativity and imagination; developing their reading, thinking, and reasoning skills; and learning to treat others with respect, kindness, and sensitivity. Check out these fun **games**, **funny jokes** and much more **activities**.
Cyberbullying Doesn't Take a Summer Break
Sometimes summer months can be tough on kids. They spend more time online scrolling, surfing, liking, and chatting with peers. Unfortunately, with more time, comes more opportunity for bullying interactions. This article talks about cyberbullying higher in summer months. Here are a few tips for parents to recognize the signs. For more information about bullying, trainings and podcast visit our #SafeAllies page.

Emojis Drug Codes - Decoded
Emojis were originally designed to represent an emotion, event, or activity, but recently have taken on a language of their own. This reference guide is intended to give parents and caregivers a better sense of how this language is being used in conjunction with illegal drugs. Check out this important information Emoji Drug Codes- Decoded. This resource can help parents have that conversation with their children about using drugs.

Suicide Proofing Your Home
The Pandemic has put a lot of stress and anxiety on families. Children are struggling with mental health needs such as depression. According to the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention suicide is the first leading cause of death for Nevadans ages 12-19 and second leading cause of death for ages 20-44. In these stressful times, parents might want to think about Suicide Proofing their home. This brochure is in English and Spanish which offers tips and ideas for keeping your family safe.

How Does ADA Apply to Child Care
Parents may have questions about the expectations of daycare or preschools to make accommodations for children with disabilities. This resource by PACER ADA- Q&A- Child Care Providers to learn more about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and how families can work with the childcare provider so children can learn and play with all children at school.
**CyberChase: Duck Dash Receives Webby Award**

Bridge Multimedia partnered with WNET and the Department’s Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to produce the accessible video game, Cyberchase: Duck Dash. Recently, the game received a 2022 Best User Experience Webby Award from the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences. Duck Dash is third in a series of OSEP-funded Webby Award-winning STEM video games created by Bridge Multimedia in collaboration with WNET-THIRTEEN.

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**Wheels on the Bus**

This award-winning tribute to Wheels on the Bus is a fun, interactive experience encouraging motor, language and cognitive skills through fresh illustrations, creative interaction and music.

- Happy Apping!

- App by: Duck Duck Moose LLC

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**Are You Passionate About Helping Families?**

[Apply Here](https://mailchi.mp/f1d0de94c965/summer-ideas-inside?e=e8c395616b) for employment opportunities in Northern, Southern, and Rural Nevada.
Planning for the Future
If your child with a disability is going to turn 14 soon, now might be a good time to start thinking about a transition plan. The transition plan is based on the student’s needs, his/her strengths, preferences, and interests and is written by your child’s IEP team. Students are encouraged to attend the IEP to help develop their transition plan. Written for parents of youth with disabilities, this handout, Parents Tip for Transition Planning, has a Question-and-Answer section for parents to help plan for their child’s future.

Statewide Family News
Although the school year has come to an end, the Statewide Family Network understands that children and youth with behavioral and mental healthcare needs may still need support. We are here to provide tips, strategies, and resources for the summer break. The transition from school routines to the summer pause can be difficult for students of all ages. Review the article, Strategies for a Successful Summer Break, for tips to help keep your youth on track so the transition to summer can be smooth and rewarding for the entire family. Additionally, we invite parents to join us as we continue to host weekly virtual support groups!

Youth MOVE Nevada News
Happy June! Summer is here and Youth MOVE Nevada (YMNV) has no plans to slow down. Along with being LGBTQ+ Pride month, June is also Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness month. As always, we have plans to discuss these topics and the ways they intersect with youth and their mental health in our weekly meetings where youth can come and share their genuine lived experience. For more information about YMNV or to become a member to get involved in future meetings and activities, be sure to check out our website and don’t forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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Simply enroll your rewards card by going to Smith's Inspiring Donations. Once you're successfully enrolled, choose Nevada PEP as your organization of choice. A portion of your purchase will be donated from Smith's. (Does not affect your normal Smith's card rewards!)

Watch a step by step "How to" video here.