

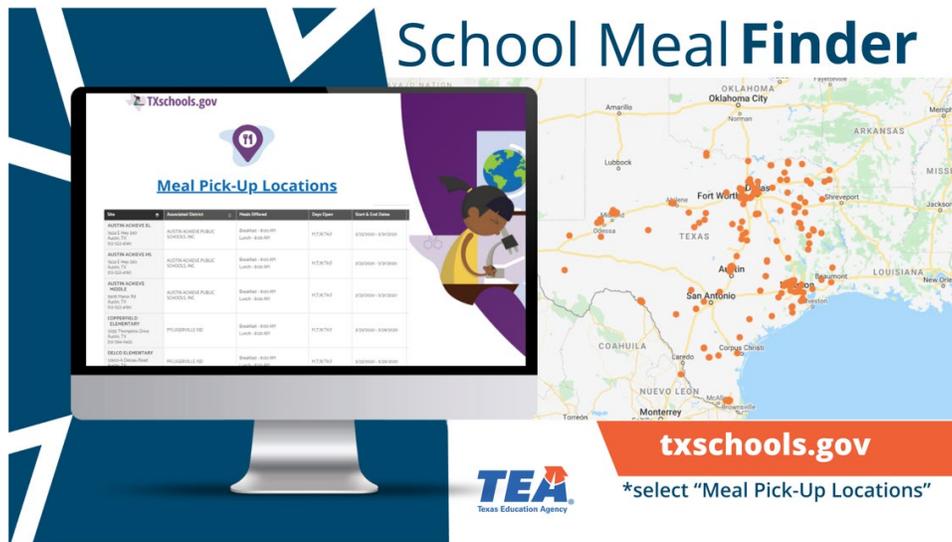


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MealFinder Map for Texas Students Now Live— Visit [TXSchools.gov](https://txschools.gov) to find more than 1,000 sites for free school meals

AUSTIN, Tex. – March 20, 2020 – Texas parents can now visit the [TXSchools.gov MealFinder Map](https://txschools.gov) to find locations near them where local school systems are offering free school meals—both breakfast and lunch—for pick-up while school buildings are closed because of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Launched by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in partnership with the Office of the Governor and Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), the [TXSchools.gov MealFinder Map](https://txschools.gov) is designed to help parents and students easily find school meals during the unprecedented disruption to schools caused by COVID-19.

Once parents go to the site, they click “Meal Pick-Up Locations” to bring up a map of locations. Parents can type their address, and the map will zoom into meal pick-up locations that are up and running near them.



School systems around the state have responded to coronavirus with an outpouring of compassion and operational excellence. In less than 8 days since the first school closures were announced, more than 1,000 schools have launched Meal Pick-Up Locations. That number is expected to rise daily, so parents should check back on [TXSchools.gov](https://txschools.gov) next week and the week after as more and more meal locations are launched.

In terms of terms of eligibility, TDA has provided extensive guidance to help school systems, based on federal rules. In locations where more than 50 percent of students are eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch, free meals can be made available for every child who visits the meal site. In places below that threshold, closed enrolled sites can be established to target individually eligible students.

The screenshot shows the 'School Meal Finder' page on the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website. At the top left is the TEA logo and 'TXschools.gov'. Navigation links for 'SCHOOLS', 'DISTRICTS', and 'ANALYZE' are visible. The main heading is 'School Meal Finder'. Below this, a section titled 'MEALS FOR STUDENTS WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED MOST' includes a sub-heading and a paragraph explaining the tool's use during the coronavirus pandemic. A search bar with the placeholder 'Enter a school or district name' is present. Below the search bar, two buttons are shown: 'Browse Texas schools' and 'Meal Pick-Up Locations'. A red arrow points from the search bar to the 'Meal Pick-Up Locations' button. To the right of the text is a colorful illustration of a child using a microscope, a globe, books, a DNA helix, a microscope, a building, and a fox. At the bottom of the illustration is the 'txschools.gov' logo and the instruction '*select "Meal Pick-Up Locations"'. The entire page is framed by a red-to-blue gradient bar at the top and bottom.

With Governor Greg Abbott’s issuance of an [Executive Order](#) on Thursday to temporarily close schools statewide through April 3, Texas is taking the lead to ensure that our students will continue to have uninterrupted access to meals, no matter how long school campuses are closed. We all remain committed first and foremost to the health and safety of our students, families, and communities.

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