



What is the Backpack Program?

The Backpack Program sends home a backpack filled with food for the weekend on Friday during the school year. The students return the backpacks the following Monday to be re-filled for the next weekend.

What is in the backpacks?

The Backpack Program rotates six different menus throughout the year. Foods included are: macaroni and cheese, concentrated fruit juice, canned tuna, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, rice, refried beans, and vouchers for eggs and bread or tortillas. Students who participate in Lincoln also receive two pieces of fresh fruit each week.

Who qualifies to receive a backpack?

The Backpack Program primarily targets students who participate in the free lunch program, however the school makes the final decisions on who participates.

How many backpacks are given out?

Each school has a certain amount of backpacks they can give out, therefore not everyone who needs one receives one. The school works very hard to meet all the needs of their families.

Where does the food come from?

The food used for the Backpack Program consists of purchased food by the Food Bank of Lincoln. The Food Bank purchases the food at a wholesale price. This ensures that every child receives the exact same brand, size and quantity of food in their backpacks.

How much does it cost?

It costs \$200 to serve one student and his or her family for an entire school year. This is about \$5.88 per week. Your dollars go directly to the food costs.

How to help the Backpack Program:

***Donate funds! It costs:**

- \$5.88 to send a backpack home to a student for the weekend
- \$100 for a semester
- \$200 for a year
- Donate a **GENDER NEUTRAL** backpack that has two straps and is large enough to fit a box of cereal in it.



The Backpack Program plans to serve over 2,500 students in Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln Parochial schools and in 15 different rural communities in Southeast Nebraska.