## 2023-24 Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil). In Community Eligibility Provision Schools (CEP), receipt of free meals does not depend on returning this application; however, this information is necessary for other program

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RETURN TO (School/District Name):
ADDRESS:

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Return completed form to your child's school.

## **SOURCES AND EXAMPLES OF INCOME**

For additional information on income, please refer to the instructions that accompany this application.

	Sources of Income	Examples of Income for Children					
Earnings from Work	Public Assistance/Alimony/ Child Support	Pensions/Retirement/ All other sources of income	A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages				
Salary, wages, cash bonuses, tips, commissions     Net income from self-employment (farm or business)	<ul> <li>Unemployment benefits</li> <li>Workers' compensation</li> <li>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</li> <li>Cash assistance from State or local</li> </ul>	Social Security/Disability (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)     Private Pensions or disability benefits	<ul> <li>A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits</li> <li>A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits</li> </ul>				
If you are in the U.S. Military:     Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing	government - Alimony payments - Child support payments	Income from trusts or estates     Annuities     Investment income     Earned interest	A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money				
<ul> <li>allowances)</li> <li>Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing</li> </ul>	Veterans benefits     Strike benefits	Rental income     Regular cash payments from outside household	A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust				

OPTIONAL Children's ethnic and racial identities. This information is kept confidential and may be protected by the Privacy Act of 1974.												
We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.												
Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race)												
Race (check one or more): American Indian	or Alaska Native	Asian Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islan	der White								
Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax, or email completed applications to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.												
DO NOT FILL OUT For school use only. If all students listed on this application attend CEP schools, the processing of this application cannot be paid for by the nonprofit school food service account.												
Annual Income Conversion: Weekly × 52, Every 2 Weeks × 26, Twice a Month × 24, Monthly × 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.  How often?  Total Income  Weekly Every 2 Weeks 2xMonth Monthly Annual  Household size  Household size  Categorical Eligibility  Categorical Eligibility												
Determining Official's Signature	Date	Confirming Official's Signature	Date	Verifying Official's Signature	Date							

## **Use of Information Statement**

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met.

Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, 'Check if no Social Security Number' Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security number. Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.

## The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf</a>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

\*MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

FAX: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or EMAIL: program.intake@usda.gov

\*Do not mail applications to this address, only complaints of discrimination.