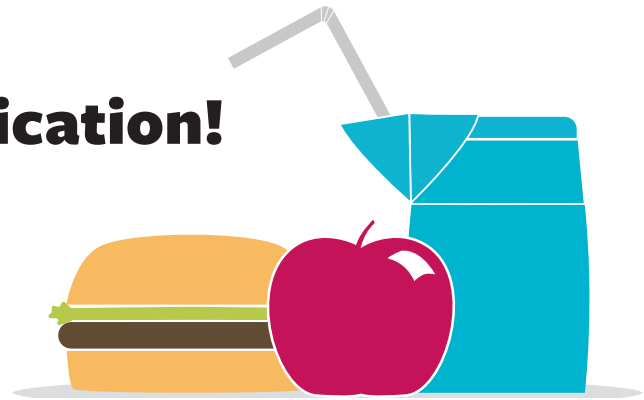


# Submit a School Meal Application!

## School Meals:

- ✓ are healthy!
- ✓ give your child energy to learn!
- ✓ stretch your food budget and save you time!



The last few school years have been difficult for families, and many are newly eligible for free school meals.

## The Basics

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- Any student can eat school meals. Based on a family's income, kids either pay full price or get school meals for free.
- **No staff, teachers or other students are told which students get free meals.** All information that you provide on an application is confidential.
- School meal applications are provided by your school, and families need to **reapply each school year.**
- It's best to submit your application at the beginning of the school year, but you can apply anytime during the school year. If your income decreases, someone in your household starts receiving benefits like SNAP or TANF, or your household size changes, you can apply for free school meals.
- Submitting a school meal application doesn't require your child to eat school meals, but it does strengthen your school's meal programs!

## Applying for Free School Meals

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Your child can get school meals for free if your household's monthly and yearly income is **at or below** the dollar amounts listed next to your household's size in this Income Limit Chart.

**Income Limit Chart for the 2023-2024 School Year**

Number of People in Your Household	Monthly Income	Yearly Income
1	\$2,248	\$26,973
2	\$3,041	\$36,482
3	\$3,833	\$45,991
4	\$4,625	\$55,500
5	\$5,418	\$65,009
6	\$6,210	\$74,518
For each additional household member, add:	\$793	\$9,509

## Tips for completing the application

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- List all of the children in your household, including infants and toddlers. For school-aged children, include their school and grade.
- Anyone who stays with you and is supported by your income, including children not yet in school and older adults, is considered part of your household.
- Be sure to complete the form with your signature, contact information, and the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you do not have a Social Security number, you must write “NONE” in that space or check the box, “I do not have a Social Security number,” if provided. It cannot be left blank.
- Contact your school if you have any questions.

### **Some families do not need to submit an application to get free school meals**

In some cases, families are automatically certified for free school meals and **do not have to fill out an application**. This includes:

- Families that get SNAP benefits
- *Some* (but not all) families that get Medicaid
- Children who are:
  - homeless or runaways
  - part of migrant families
  - in foster care
  - enrolled in Head Start

### **Contact your school if to see if you may already be certified for free school meals.**

*Note: Households that get public assistance (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits) are automatically eligible for free school meals. If you do not also receive SNAP, you need to submit a signed application to your school with your child's name and the case number. You do not need to report your income.*