

It's more than just a MEAL APPLICATION!



Did you know that the Application for Educational Benefits covers so much more than just meals?

Additional benefits may include:



INTERNET ACCESS

Eligible for discounted internet access services.

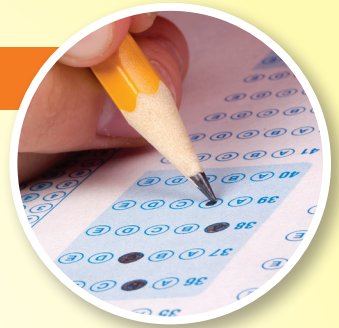
COLLEGE APPLICATION FEES

Discounted rate on fees associated with applying for college.



AP TESTS

Reduced registration fee for AP tests.



SCHOOL FUNDING

Helps the school qualify for education funds and discounts.



MOST SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Free or discounted pay-to-participate sport and activity fees.



SCHOOL MEALS

Free or reduced prices on delicious and nutritious meals.



WBLAS families can complete the application any time.

Applying online is fast and secure at schoolcafe.com/isd624.

Visit the WBLAS Nutrition Services web page to download a paper application at isd624.org/departments/nutrition-services

Application for Educational Benefits

Apply today to qualify for free or reduced-price meals and additional benefits

Our school provides healthy meals each day. **Meals will NOT be free for all students in the 2022-2023 school year.** Breakfast costs \$1.70. Lunch costs \$2.95 for early childhood (at locations where meals are provided) and elementary (through grade 5), and \$3.25 for secondary students (grades 6-12+).

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. To apply, complete the Application for Educational Benefits following the instructions below. A new application must be submitted each year. Your application also helps the school qualify for education funds and discounts.

State funds help to pay for reduced-price school meals, so all students who are approved for either free or reduced-price school meals will receive school meals at no charge. State funds also help to pay for breakfasts for kindergarten students, so all participating kindergarten students receive breakfasts at no charge.



Common Questions

My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out a new one? Yes, your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first 30 school days of the new school year.

Why is it important to turn in the free and reduced lunch application as soon as possible?

Additional benefits may be available to students who qualify such as lower or no fees for activities, some field trips, testing and more. Also, in order for your school to receive extra federal funding (which can keep classes small), our district must submit your application to the federal government. Applications sent after the fall deadline will not help schools receive extra funding. In short, your school loses money.

Who should complete this application? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children can get free school meals without reporting household income.

Alternatively, children can get free educational benefits if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions.

To apply for additional educational benefits, please complete the Application for Educational Benefits form enclosed with this packet or online at schoolcafe.com/isd624. If you have other questions or need help, call Nutrition Services at 651-407-7515.

I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children get benefits?

Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify for free benefits. Please fill out an application.

Who should I include as household members?

Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends).

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?

Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for your children to qualify for educational benefits.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get overtime only sometimes. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

Will the income information or case number I give be checked?

It may be. You may be asked to send written proof.

How will the information be kept? Information you provide on the form, and your child's approval for meal benefits, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits.

If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits.



Instructions

To apply, scan the code above or go to isd624.org and follow the steps below:

- At the top of the page click on "Our Schools" and select your child's school.
- On the school home page select "Support" in the dark orange bar at the top of the page.
- Select "Free/Reduced Lunch." This will take you directly to the online application.
- Once you are there, create or log in to your account and fill out the application and hit the "submit my application" button.

Visit isd624.org/departments/nutrition-services for an instructional video and quick card.

To request a paper copy of the application, please contact us at 651-407-7515 or nutritionservices@isd624.org.



White Bear Lake Area Schools
This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

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