



SAU 93 600 Old Homestead Highway, Swanzey NH 03446

603-352-6955

www.mrsd.org

SCHOOL YEAR 2024-2025

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. SAU # 93 Monadnock Regional School District offers healthy meals every school day.

Elementary Breakfast costs \$1.95 lunch costs \$3.05. **Middle & High School** Breakfast cost \$2.20; lunch cost \$3.50

Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. **Reduced price** is \$.00 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch.

Below are some common questions and answers to aid in the process of determining your child's eligibility.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from **NH SNAP or NH TANF**, are eligible for free meals.
- **Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.**
- **Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.**
- **Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.**
- Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2024 - 2025			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	27,861	2,322	536
2	37,814	3,152	728
3	47,767	3,981	919
4	57,720	4,810	1,110
5	67,673	5,640	1,302
6	77,626	6,469	1,493
7	87,579	7,299	1,685
8	97,532	8,128	1,876
Each additional person:	9,953	830	192

1. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **Sharon Arnone, SAU #93 Homeless Liaison, (603) 357-2042 or sarnone@mrsd.org**
2. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to your **students' school cafeteria office** or to **Monadnock Nutrition Services, PO Box 10451, 580 Old Homestead Highway, Swanzey NH 03446**
3. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Monadnock Nutrition PO Box 10451, Swanzey NH 03446, Call (603) 903-6818 or twalsh@mrsd.org** immediately.

Updated 5/2024

4. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit www.mrsd.org to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact **Monadnock Nutrition PO Box 10451, Swanzey NH 03446, Call (603) 903-6818** or twalsh@mrsd.org if you have any questions about the online application.
5. 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 few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
6. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please send in an application.
7. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
8. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? **Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year.** For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
9. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **LISA SPENCER ,ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SAU 93, 600 OLD HOMESTEAD HIGHWAY SWANZEY NH 03446 (603) 903-6955**
10. MY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.
11. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
12. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
13. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY, DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
14. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact the **Monadnock Nutrition Office (603) 903-6818** or bcox@mrsd.org to receive a second application.
15. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **SNAP, TANF, FDPIR** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **603 271-9700 or 844-275-3447**.

If you have other questions or need help, call **(603) 903-6818**

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Walsh, Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Updated 5/2024



OMB Number: 0584-0026
Expiration Date: 07/31/2023

This information is being collected to assist the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in providing program operators an application prototype for participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP). This application prototype meets all of the regulatory requirements. While it is voluntary for program operators to use this application prototype, the information it collects is required for applicants to obtain program benefits in accordance with the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) (42 U.S.C. § 1758). FNS does not use the information collected at the local level. This collection requests personally identifiable information under the Privacy Act of 1974; all responses are to be kept private to the extent provided by law. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-0026. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 7 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Child Nutrition, Office of Policy Support, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314, ATTN: PRA (0584-0026). Do **not** return the completed form to this address.