

# Athens City Schools

## FREE and REDUCED

### Lunch Form

# 2026-2027



Save Paper

Complete an Application Online

Find a Direct Link at [www.acs-k12.org](http://www.acs-k12.org)

or any Athens City School Website

You must complete a new application each year. Please list everyone in your household and all your children in the Athens City School District on one application. **To qualify for free and reduced qualifying services, a new application and requalification must be completed by Athens City Schools each school year.** So, please complete this application and turn in to your lunchroom or school office immediately or complete an online application.

Thank you!  
Athens City Schools  
Child Nutrition Program

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Athens City School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast at no cost lunch costs \$2.75. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. The reduced price is at no cost for breakfast and \$2.75 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

## 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from Alabama SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPPIR), Alabama TANF, or Alabama Medicaid Free are eligible for free meals.
- Alabama Medicaid Reduced are eligible for reduced priced 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.

| HOUSEHOLD SIZE | FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES | REDUCED PRICE MEALS = 185%            |         |           |                 | FREE MEALS = 130% |         |           |                 |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|
|                |                            | ANNUAL                                | MONTHLY | PER MONTH | EVERY TWO WEEKS | ANNUAL            | MONTHLY | PER MONTH | EVERY TWO WEEKS |
| 1              | 10,508                     | 2,630                                 | 2,191   | 1,826     | 1,381           | 20,748            | 1,729   | 660       | 788             |
| 2              | 14,034                     | 3,337                                 | 2,781   | 2,304     | 1,728           | 28,132            | 2,345   | 1,178     | 1,082           |
| 3              | 18,042                     | 4,212                                 | 3,476   | 2,844     | 2,172           | 36,916            | 3,076   | 1,450     | 1,356           |
| 4              | 21,050                     | 5,088                                 | 4,164   | 3,377     | 2,544           | 42,800            | 3,576   | 1,783     | 1,680           |
| 5              | 23,558                     | 5,854                                 | 4,832   | 3,944     | 2,916           | 50,284            | 4,181   | 2,086     | 1,934           |
| 6              | 25,566                     | 6,520                                 | 5,500   | 4,610     | 3,582           | 57,068            | 4,806   | 2,403     | 2,218           |
| 7              | 27,074                     | 7,186                                 | 6,166   | 5,276     | 4,248           | 63,082            | 5,421   | 2,711     | 2,602           |
| 8              | 28,582                     | 7,852                                 | 6,832   | 5,942     | 4,914           | 69,096            | 6,037   | 3,018     | 2,786           |
|                |                            | or each additional family member, add |         |           |                 |                   |         |           |                 |
|                | 10,508                     | 2,630                                 | 2,191   | 1,826     | 1,381           | 20,748            | 1,729   | 660       | 788             |
|                | 14,034                     | 3,337                                 | 2,781   | 2,304     | 1,728           | 28,132            | 2,345   | 1,178     | 1,082           |
|                | 18,042                     | 4,212                                 | 3,476   | 2,844     | 2,172           | 36,916            | 3,076   | 1,450     | 1,356           |
|                | 21,050                     | 5,088                                 | 4,164   | 3,377     | 2,544           | 42,800            | 3,576   | 1,783     | 1,680           |
|                | 23,558                     | 5,854                                 | 4,832   | 3,944     | 2,916           | 50,284            | 4,181   | 2,086     | 1,934           |
|                | 25,566                     | 6,520                                 | 5,500   | 4,610     | 3,582           | 57,068            | 4,806   | 2,403     | 2,218           |
|                | 27,074                     | 7,186                                 | 6,166   | 5,276     | 4,248           | 63,082            | 5,421   | 2,711     | 2,602           |
|                | 28,582                     | 7,852                                 | 6,832   | 5,942     | 4,914           | 69,096            | 6,037   | 3,018     | 2,786           |

6. **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, through **SEPTEMBER 17, 2026**. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.
7. **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.
8. **WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report anytime during the school year.
9. **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.
10. **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: **Student Services Coordinator, Mike O'Rear at 455 US Hwy. 31 North, Athens, AL 35611 or 256-233-6600 or [mike.orear@acs-k12.org](mailto:mike.orear@acs-k12.org).**
11. **MAY 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.
12. **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.
13. **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 the income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. **DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?** Only the last 4 digits of the social security number of the household's primary wage earner or another adult household member (or an indication of "none") is required.
15. **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, 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.
16. **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 **Tandy Blackwell at 256-233-6600 or [tandy.blackwell@acs-k12.org](mailto:tandy.blackwell@acs-k12.org)** to receive a second application.
17. **MAY I DECLINE BENEFITS?** Yes. Households notified of their children's eligibility must contact **Athens City School District** or school if they choose to decline the free meal benefits.
18. **WHAT IF ALL CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS ARE NOT ON THE NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY LETTER?** If children or households receive benefits under Assistance Programs or Other Source Categorically Eligible Programs and are not listed on the notice of eligibility and are not notified by the school of their free meal benefits, the parent or guardian should contact the school or should submit an income application.
19. **MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?** To find out how to apply for Alabama SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call (800) 382-0499. If you have other questions or need help, call **256-233-6600**.

Sincerely,  
Child Nutrition Program

## USDA FNS Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the state or local agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
  2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
  3. Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).
- USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

# How To Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free and reduced price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, **even if your children attend more than one school in the Athens City Schools.** The application must be filled out completely to determine the eligibility of your child(ren) for free or reduced price school meals. Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact Tandy Blackwell at 256-233-6600 or [tandy.blackwell@acs-k12.org](mailto:tandy.blackwell@acs-k12.org).

**Please use a pen (not a pencil) when filling out the application and do your best to print clearly.**

## Step 1: List ALL children, infants, and students up to and including grade 12

Tell us how many infants/toddlers, children not in school, and elementary/middle/high school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

**Who should I list here?** When filling out this section, please include ALL members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under AND are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a formal foster arrangement through a court or state/local agency, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending (regardless of age) [school/school system here].

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>A) List each child's name.</b> Print each child's name. Use one line of the application for each child. When printing names, write one letter in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper for a second application (completing electronically) with all required information for the additional children. This also applies to adults in Step 3. "Mr" is short for middle initial. Print the first letter of each child's middle name in the box.</p> | <p><b>B) Is the child a student?</b> If "Yes," write the grade level of the student in the "Grade" column to the right.</p> | <p><b>C) Do you have any foster children?</b> If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. If you are ONLY applying for foster children, after finishing Step 1, go to Step 4.</p> <p>Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to Step 3. Note: Adopted children are not considered foster children. A foster child is a minor child who has been taken into state custody and placed with a state-licensed adult who cares for the child in place of their parent or guardian.</p> | <p><b>D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway?</b> If you believe any child listed in this section meets this description, mark the "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and complete all steps of the application. Homeless, Migrant, Runaway status must be confirmed with the appropriate program staff. If the school district cannot confirm your student's homeless, migrant, or runaway status, then the school district will contact you to complete an income-based application. You may choose to provide income information now in order to prevent the school district from potentially needing to contact you later.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Step 2: Do any household members currently participate in SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR?

If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Food Stamp Office 1-800-382-0499.
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Stamp Office 1-800-382-0499.
- The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:

- Check "No" in Step 2 and go to Step 3.

B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:

- Write a case number for SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR. You only need to provide one case number. If you participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact the Food Stamp Office at 1-800-382-0499.
- Go to Step 4.

## Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

### How do I report my income?

- Use the lists titled "Sources of Income" & "Examples of Income for Children," on the back side of the application form to determine if your household has income to report.
- Report all amounts in GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
  - Gross income is the total income received **before** taxes and deductions.
  - Many people think of income as the amount they "take home" and not the total, "gross" amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has **NOT** been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.
- Write a "0" in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will also be counted as a zero. If you write "0" or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials suspect that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be investigated.
- Mark how often each type of income is received using the check boxes to the right of each field.

### 3.A. Report income earned by adults

#### Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, please include ALL adult members in your household who are living with you and share income and expenses, even if they are not related and even if they do not receive income of their own.
- Do NOT include:
  - People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household.
  - Infants, children and students already listed in Step 1.

### Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

#### 1) List adult household members' names.

Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Include college students, unless they are declared independently on taxes (all college students are considered adults). Do not list any household members you listed in Step 1.

#### 2) List earnings from work.

- List all income from work in the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income. Net income is your income after taxes and deductions have been subtracted.
- **What if I have multiple jobs?** List each job separately by entering your name and income from each job on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.
  - **What if I am self-employed?** List income from your business as a net amount. This net amount is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts (revenue). Gross receipts or revenue are all the income earned from the sale of any products or services offered.

If a child listed in Step 1 has income, follow the instructions in Step 3, Part B.

#### 3) List income from public assistance/child support/alimony.

List all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the next part.

#### 4) List income from pensions/retirement/all other income.

List all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income" field on the application.

- **What if I receive income from multiple sources in this category?** List each source separately by entering your name and income from each source on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.

#### 5) List total household size.

Enter the total number of household members in the field "Total Household Members (Children and Adults)." This number **MUST** be equal to the number of household members listed in Step 1 and Step 3. If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free and reduced price meals.

#### 6) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.

An adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no Social Security Number."

#### 3 B List income earned by children

##### List all income earned or received by children.

List the combined gross income for ALL children listed in Step 1 in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

- **What is Child Income?** Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid **DIRECTLY** to your children. Many households do not have any child income.

## Step 4: Contact information and adult signature

**All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the statements on the back of the application.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>A) Provide your contact information.</b> Write your current mailing address in the fields provided if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, that is okay. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.</p> | <p><b>B) Print and sign your name and write today's date.</b> Print the name of the adult signing the application and that person signs in the box "Signature of adult."</p> | <p><b>C) Mail completed application to:</b><br/>         Athens City Schools District<br/>         455 US Hwy. 31 North<br/>         Athens, AL 35611</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Optional

**Share children's racial and ethnic identities (optional).** On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children's race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals. This information is requested solely for the purpose of determining the State's compliance with Federal civil rights laws, and your response will not affect consideration of your application and may be protected by the Privacy Act. By providing this information, you will assist us in assuring that this program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

**Please return the application directly to your child's SCHOOL. DO NOT mail, fax, or email completed applications or questions about applications to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights or your child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals will be delayed.**

**APPLY ONLINE:** <https://www.acs-k12.org/departments/child-nutrition-program/freereducedapp>  
**RETURN TO (School/District Name):** Athens City School District  
**ADDRESS:** 455 US Hwy. 31 North, Athens, AL 35611

Child's First Name

| Child's First Name | M/I | <u>Child's Last Name</u> | <u>This includes children not related to you in your household.</u> |
|--------------------|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    |     |                          |                                                                     |

**If you checked any of these boxes, please refer to the Application Instruction's Step 1: Part C & Part D.**

☐ NO ☐ YES

Go to STEP 3. ☐ YES ☐ NO

Write case number here and proceed to STEP 4

**Write case number here and proceed to STEP 4.**

1. All Adult Household Members (Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related, including you.) List all Adult Household Members not listed in Form 4, Part 1.

| Household Members (Children and Adults) | Last Four Numbers of Social Security Numbers of |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                         |                                                 |

**Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income.**

Check if no Social Security Number ☐

**Please see application's back  
for list of income sources.**

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL or Central Office:** Athens City Schools Central Office at 455 US Hwy 31 N. Athens AL 35611

Parent Name of Adult Signing the Form

Parent Name of Adult Signing the Form \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Adult \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

**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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages.</li><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><li>• A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money.</li><li>• A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust.</li></ul> |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Salary, wages, cash bonuses, tips, commissions</li><li>• Net income from self-employment (farm or business)</li></ul>                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unemployment benefits</li><li>• Workers' compensation</li><li>• Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</li><li>• Cash assistance from State or local government</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social Security/Disability (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)</li><li>• Private Pensions or disability benefits</li><li>• Income from trusts or estates</li><li>• Annuities</li><li>• Investment income</li><li>• Earned interest</li><li>• Rental income</li><li>• Regular cash payments from outside household</li></ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>If you are in the U.S. Military:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing allowances)</li><li>• Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All military payments</li><li>• Child support payments</li><li>• Veterans' benefits</li><li>• Strike benefits</li></ul>                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |

**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) ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ 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.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice a Month x 24, Monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.

|              |  |                                                                                                               |                |                                                  |                                                                   |
|--------------|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Total Income |  | How often?                                                                                                    | Household size | Categorical Eligibility <input type="checkbox"/> | Eligibility                                                       |
|              |  | Weekly<br>Every 2 Weeks<br>Twice a Month<br>Monthly<br>Annually                                               |                |                                                  | Free<br>Reduced<br>Denied                                         |
|              |  | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |                |                                                  | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |

|                                  |      |                                 |      |                                |      |
|----------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
| 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.

**Return completed form to your child's school or Central Office.**

**The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination.**  
USDA FNS Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

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1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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