2026-27 Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

Scan here to apply online:

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use a pen (not a pencil). **Mail or return completed form to: (*School/District Information*)** _____

STEP 1: **List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students** up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper).

Definition: A Household Member is "Anyone living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related." Children in Foster care are eligible for free meals. Read *How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits* for more information. Adults over grade 12 living in the same household should be reported in Step 3. If your children attend different districts or charter/nonpublic schools, return an application to each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child's Last Name	School	Grade	Mark all that apply.	Foster Child	Migrant	Homeless or Runaway
						☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐

Does your child have health insurance? Many children who qualify for free or reduced-price meals may also be eligible for low-cost or free health coverage. For more information, visit https://applyforhelp.nd.gov or call 1-866-614-6005.

STEP 2: **Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR? Medical assistance does not qualify through an application.**
If NO > Go to STEP 3. **If YES** >Enter SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR Case Number (between 4-9 digits, do not report EBT card number) _____ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3.)

STEP 3: **Report Income for ALL Household Members** (Skip this step if you answered 'Yes' to STEP 2)

A. **All Adult Household Members (including yourself).** For each Household Member listed, report total gross income only if they receive income. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0' or leave the fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Not sure what income to include here? Flip the page and review "Sources of Income" for information. "Sources of Income" will help you with the All Adult Household Members section and B. Child Income section. College students living away at school can still be counted as household members..

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs					Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?			Any Other Gross Income				
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Report income **before deductions or taxes** in whole dollars (no cents).	Monthly	Yearly	**Net income** from Farm or Self-Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	SSI, Unemployment, Public Assistance, Child Support, and others on Page 2
	☐	☐	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	☐	☐	$
	☐	☐	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	☐	☐	$
	☐	☐	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	☐	☐	$
	☐	☐	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	$	☐	☐	☐	☐	$

B. **Child Income.**
Sometimes, children in the household earn or receive income, such as from a part-time job or SSI. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do not include income received by adults in the box to the right.

Total Income Received by All Children	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
$	☐	☐	☐	☐

STEP 4: **An Adult household member must sign the application. If Part 3 is completed, the adult signing the form must also list the last four digits of his or her social security number or mark the 'I do not have a Social Security Number box.**

A. **Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member**: XXX-XX-☐☐☐☐ Or ☐√ I do not have a Social Security Number

Total Number of All Household Members (Children + Adults) Here: ☐

B. **Attestation & Signature:** "I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

X	
SIGNATURE of Adult Completing Application (*Form must be signed to be complete.*)	**DATE**

Print Name **Daytime Phone**

Address (if available) **Apt#** **City** **Zip**

SCHOOL OFFICE USE ONLY ❑ **Error Prone Application**

❑**Case # Application** ❑**Foster Application** ❑**Directly Certified:** ***Date of Disregard***: _____
❑**Income Application** ❑**Homeless/Migrant/Runaway**
Household Size: _____
Total Income: $_____ Per: ❑ Week ❑ Bi-Weekly (Every 2 Wks.) ❑ 2x Month ❑ Monthly ❑ Annual
Eligibility: Federal Free (130%) ____ Reduced (185%) ___ State 200 ___ Denied ____
Determining Official's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Reason for Denial ❑**Income Too High** ❑**Incomplete App**

❑ **Selected For Verification:** *Confirming Official's Signature*: _____ Date: _____
Verifying Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

See Page 2 for Additional Information. Return completed form to the school at the address listed at the top of the form.

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples
• Earnings from work • Social Security a. Disability Payments b. Survivor's Benefits • Income from person outside the household • Income from any other source	• A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages. • A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security • A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits. • A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money. • A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	All Other Income
• Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes) • Net income from self-employment (farm or business) • If you are in the U.S. Military: a. Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) b. Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	• Cash Assistance from State or local government • Supplemental Security Income • Unemployment benefits • Worker's compensation • Alimony payments • Child support payments • Veteran's benefits • Strike benefits	• Social Security • Disability benefits • Regular income from trusts or estates • Annuities • Investment income • Rental income • Regular cash payments from outside household

OPTIONAL: Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities

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. Respond to both Step One, *Ethnicity* and Step Two, *Race*.

Step One: Ethnicity (check one): ☐ **Hispanic or Latino** ☐ **Not Hispanic or Latino**

Step Two: Race (check one or more): ☐ **American Indian or Alaskan Native** ☐ **Asian** ☐ **Black or African American** ☐ **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** ☐ **White**

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced-price meals. You must include the last four digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

Foster, migrant, homeless, and runaway children and children enrolled in a Head Start program are categorically eligible for free meals and free milk. If you are completing an application for these children, contact the school For more information.

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:*

Mail: 1. U.S. Department of Agriculture*
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 202509410
2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*Only use this address if you are filing a complaint of discrimination.

Return completed form to your child's school.