Application Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Great Hearts Texas announced its policy today for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the attached current income eligibility guidelines. Each school/site or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by anyone on request.

By August 1st, Great Hearts will begin distributing letters to the households of the children in the district about eligibility benefits and any actions households need to take to apply for these benefits. Applications also are available at each campus or online at www.LINQConnect.com.

Criteria for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

Income

1. Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels

Categorical (Automatic) Eligibility

2. Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Program Participant

- 3. Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster
- 4. Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

Income Eligibility

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must complete an application for free and reduced-price meals and return it to *your child's campus, or email meals@GreatHeartsTXSchools.org*. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Names of all household members
- 2. Amount, frequency, and source of current income for each household member
- 3. Last 4 digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for *"No Social Security number"*
- 4. Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct

Categorical or Program Eligibility

Great Hearts Texas is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. *Great Hearts Texas* will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have should contact D'Ann Hart at dann.hart@GreatHeartsTXSchools.org. Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact dann.hart@GreatHeartsTXSchools.org.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information provided by households on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

Determining Eligibility

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, *the Director of Child Nutrition* will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to *Shraddha Nembang at shraddha.nembang@GreatHeartsTXSchools.org*.

Unexpected Circumstances

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: Program.Intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Children need healthy meals to learn. Great Hearts Texas offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$2.00; lunch costs \$4.00. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced-price is FREE for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. If you received a notification letter that a child is directly certified for free or reduced-price meals, do not complete an application. Let the school know if any children in the household attending school are not listed in the letter.

The questions and answers that follow and attached directions provide additional information on how to complete the application. Complete only <u>one application</u> for all the students in the household and return the completed application to the front desk of your child's campus. If you have questions about applying for free or reduced-price meals, contact your child's campus or meals@greatheartstxschools.org.

1. Who Can Get Free Meals?

- *Income*—Children can get free or reduced-price meals if a household's gross income is within the limits described in the *Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines*.
- Special Assistance Program Participants—Children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program for Households on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), are eligible for free meals.
- Foster—Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Head Start or Early Head Start—Children participating in these programs are eligible for free meals.
- Homeless, Runaway, and Migrant—Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told about a child's status as homeless, runaway, or migrant or you feel a child may qualify for one of these programs, please call or email diane.jones@greatheartstxschools.org.
- *WIC Recipient*—Children in households participating in WIC <u>may</u> be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
- 2. What If I Disagree with the School's Decision About My Application? Talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Shraddha Nembang at shraddha.nembang@greatheartstxschools.org.
- 3. My Child's Application Was Approved Last Year. Do I Need to Fill Out A New One? Yes. An application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. Send in a new application unless the school has told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

- 4. **If I Don't Qualify Now, May I Apply Later?** Yes. Apply at any time during the school year. A child 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.
- 5. What If My Income Is Not Always the Same? List the amount <u>normally</u> received. If a household member lost a job or had hours/wages reduced, use current income.
- 6. We Are in The Military. Do We Report Our Income Differently? Basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. Any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments count as income. If housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include the housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is excluded from income.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Will Application Information Be Checked? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the reported household income.
- 9. My Family Needs More Help. Are There Other Programs We Might Apply For? To find out how to apply for other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or 2-1-1.
- 10. **Can I Apply Online?** Yes! The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit *www.LINQConnect.com* to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact your child's campus or *meals@greatheartstxschools.org* if you have questions about the online application

If you have other questions or need help, call 210-888-9475 or email meals@greatheartstxschools.org.

Sincerely,

D'Ann Hart Director of Child Nutrition Great Hearts Texas

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: *https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf*, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the

Letter for Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals | Updated May 31, 2024

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: Program.Intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Multi-Use Application for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

Return to:

or Apply Online:

STEP 1 List ALL Household M	embers who are in	fants, children, and s	tudents	s up to and including g	rade 12							
If more spaces are needed, u	se the Additional Name	s section on the back.				Sti	ıdent?			Hoad	Forter	Homeless,
Definition of Household Member :	Child's First Name		MI	Child's Last Name		Yes	No	Grade		Start		
"Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even									Jy			
if not related."									app			
Children in Foster Care, Head									that			
Start, and children who meet the definition of Homeless , Migrant ,									any			
or Runaway are eligible for free									leck			
meals. Read the directions for more information.									5			
STEP 2 Do any Household Mer	nhers (including y	ou) currently partici	note in	one or more of the foll	owing assistance r	rograme	SNAD T	ANE or El	סוסר <i>י</i>			
51EF 2 Do any nousehold Mer	inders (including y		•			-	5. JIVAI , 17		JI IK:			
If NO Go to STEP 3	If YES —		-			.)	EDG Nu	mber				
STEP 3 Report Income for ALI	Household Memb											
			ember	XXX- XX-	Check	if no SSN						
			aaiwa ina	ome For each Household M	lombor listed if they d	o n ogoirro i		rt total grad		a (hafa	no torroo) for
												, write
o. If you enter o of leave any fields blank	, you are certifying (pr	omising) that there is no	income t	o report. If more spaces are	needed, use the Additio	onal Names		he back.		•		, write
Name of Adult Household Members	, you are certifying (pr Work Earnings	Frequency		Public Assistance/	Frequency		Pensions/l	he back. Retirement/		Fre	quency	
			income t		Frequency		Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/	W		quency	
Name of Adult Household Members		Frequency		Public Assistance/	Frequency		Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/		Fre	quency	
Name of Adult Household Members	Work Earnings	Frequency	A	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency		Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/		Fre	quency	
Name of Adult Household Members	Work Earnings	Frequency	A 9	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency		Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/		Fre	quency	
Name of Adult Household Members	Work Earnings	Frequency	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency		Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/		Fre	quency	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last)	Work Earnings	Frequency	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency W E T	M A	Pensions/l Social Secu	he back. Retirement/ ırity/ SSI/		Fre	quency	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House	Work Earnings \$	Frequency W E T M	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency W E T	M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$	he back. Retirement/ irity/ SSI/ s/All Other	W	Fre	quency T I	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M		Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency W E T	M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$	he back. Retirement/ rity/ SSI/ s/All Other	old Me	Fre	quency T 1	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me	If more spaces are needed, use the Additional Names section on the back. Student? Hearlies to the additional Names section on the back. Hearlies to the additional Names section on the back. In Poster Care, Head Child's First Name MI Child's Last Name Yes No Grade Yes No In Poster Care, Head Child's Nigrant, way are eligible for free add the directions for In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Child's Last Name Yes No Grade Yes No In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Child's East Name Yes No In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Child's East Name Yes No In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Child's East Name Yes No In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Signal Signal Add the Children who meet the Child's East Name Yes No In Poster Care, Head Children who meet the Signal Signal Add the Members (Including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR? Image: Signal Add the diverse in Come for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'YES' to STEP 2) EDG Number EDG Number Image: Signal Add the Members (Including yourself) Number (Beding Yes) XXX- XX- Check if no SSN In Poster Care, write the Member's Signal											
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M		Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	Frequency W E T	M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$	he back. Retirement/ rity/ SSI/ s/All Other	old Me	Fre	quency T 1	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me income from additional children listed on be STEP 4 Contact information and "I certify (promise) that all information of	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M Image: With the set of th	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T	M A M A M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$ D. Tota	he back. Retirement/ irity/SSI/ s/All Other al Househ (Ch	old Me	Fre E embers	quency T I	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me income from additional children listed on be STEP 4 Contact information an	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M Image: With the set of th	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T	M A M A M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$ D. Tota	he back. Retirement/ irity/SSI/ s/All Other al Househ (Ch	old Me	Fre E embers	quency T I	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me income from additional children listed on be STEP 4 Contact information and "I certify (promise) that all information of	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M Image: With the set of th	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T	M A M A M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$ D. Tota	he back. Retirement/ irity/SSI/ s/All Other al Househ (Ch	old Me	Fre E embers	quency T I	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me income from additional children listed on be STEP 4 Contact information an "I certify (promise) that all information of	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M Image: With the set of th	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T W E T	M A M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$ D. Tota	he back. Retirement/ urity/SSI/ s/All Other al Househ (Ch ot of Federa icable State	old Me ildren &	Fre E embers	quency T I	
Name of Adult Household Members (First & Last) C. Income for Children in the House Sometimes children in the household earn income received by all Child Household Me income from additional children listed on be STEP 4 Contact information an "I certify (promise) that all information o officials may verify (check) the informati	Work Earnings	Frequency W E T M	A 4	Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony	W E T W E T W E T W E T w E T w E T w E T w E T w E T w E T w E T w E T w E T	M A M A	Pensions/J Social Secu VA Benefit \$ \$ \$ \$ D. Tota th the receipt d under appl	he back. Retirement/ urity/SSI/ s/All Other al Househ (Ch ot of Federa icable State	old Me ildren &	Fre E embers	quency T I	

STEP 5 (Optional) Sharing Information with Other Programs

\$

\$ \$

For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Please circle any program or benefit from the list below that you want to receive information from this application. Completing this section will not change whether your children are eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

\$

\$

\$

ADDITIONAL NAMES													
List any additional child household member	rs not listed in STEP 1.						Stu	udent?				Hom	neless,
											Head Fo	ster Mig	igrant,
Child's First Name		MI	Child's Last Nam	e			Yes	No	Grade	<u>v</u> lo	Start C	hild Run	naway
										apt			
										nat			
										ly t			
										<u>k ar</u>	<u> </u>		
										hec			
The sum of the second state is the second state of the second stat		Derected	L					Manuth Inc. A.	A	9			
List any additional adult household member	rs not listed in STEP 3	. Report ti	ne frequency by incom	ie type: w=weekly, E=Every	2 weeks, 1=1wice pe	er Mor	ith, M=I						
Name of Adult Household Members	Work Earnings		Frequency	Public Assistance/	Frequenc	:y		Pensions/R Social Secu			Frequ	iency	
(First & Last)		WI	E T M A	Child Support/Alimony	W E T	М	Α	VA Benefits		W	E	Г М	Α

\$

\$

\$

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.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DOI	NOT COMPLETE. This section for s	school use only.	
nnual Income Conversion: weekly x 52, every two weeks x 26, twice a month x 24, mont o determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.	Date Received	Date Withdrawn	
Household Size Total Income W E	T M A	Reviewing/Determining Official's Signatur	re Date
Categorical Determination Eligibility	educed Denied	Confirming Official's Signature	Date

Updated May 31, 2024

Return completed applications here:

Please use these instructions to complete the free or reduced-price school meals application. Submit one application per household, even if the children in the household attend more than one school in your school district. Please use a **pen** (not a pencil), if completing the application **by hand**. The application must be filled out completely in order for the school to make a determination if the children in your household qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. **An incomplete application cannot be approved**. Please contact the school district at the number or email address listed above with questions.

Step 1: List All Household Members Who Are Infants, Children, And Students Up to and Including Grade 12.

- List each child's name.
 - <u>Print</u> first name, middle initial, and last name for each child in the household in the spaces. If there are more children than lines, use the back of the application to record additional names.
 - <u>Include</u> all household members who are age 18 or under and are supported with the household's income including children who are not enrolled in the district. Children do NOT have to be related to anyone in the household to be a part of the household.
- <u>Mark</u> the box following the child's name to show if the child is a student in the school district.
- <u>Record</u> the child's grade if the child is in school.
- <u>Check</u> the appropriate box if a child qualifies for free meals as participant in the foster care system, Head Start (including Early Head Start) or if a child meets the criteria for homeless, migrant, or runaway. *Checking Foster indicates that a foster care agency or court has placed the child in your home. If the application is being submitted for foster children only, <u>complete</u> Step 1, <u>skip</u> Steps 2-3, and <u>complete</u> Step 4.*

Step 2: Participating in a Categorical Eligibility Program

- Do any household members (including you) currently participate in SNAP, TANF, and/or FDPIR?
 - If a child or adult in the household participates in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), record the Eligibility Determination Group (EDG) number in the space.
 - If a child or adult in the household is a participant in Food Distribution Program for Households on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), <u>circle YES</u> to indicate participation. The school district will contact you to obtain documentation of FDPIR participation.
- If the students in the household are eligible based on SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR, skip Steps 3, and complete Step 4.
- If any children in the household are participants in one of the following programs—*Foster*, *Head Start*, *Homeless*, *Migrant*, or *Runaway*, <u>skip</u> Steps 3 and <u>complete</u> Step 4.

Step 3: Report Income for All Household Members

Part A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of an Adult Household Member

• <u>Provide</u> the last four digits of the Social Security number (SSN) of an adult in the household or check the box for no SSN. A social security number is <u>not required</u> to apply for these programs.

Part B. Income for All Adult Household Members (including yourself)

- Record the first and last name of each adult in the household in the space provided.
 - If there are more adults in the household than available spaces, use the back of the application.
 - Include all adults living in the household that share income and expenses, even if the adult is not related to anyone in the household and does not receive any income. Do not include adults that are not supported by the household's income and do not contribute income to the household.
- <u>Record</u> the amount of income the adult receives under the type of income: Working Earnings; Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony; Pensions/ Retirement/Social Security/Supplemental Security Income (SSI); and All Other.
 - <u>Report</u> all amounts in gross income only and in whole dollars. Gross income is the total income received before taxes or deductions. Ensure that the income reported has not been reduced by the amounts deducted for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other purpose. The Adult Income Information Box (next page) provides additional information on the types of income that need to be reported. Foster children may be included as a member of the household or may be included on a separate application.
 - <u>Write</u> a <u>0</u> in any field where there is no income to report. If you write <u>0</u> or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials have known or available information that the household income was reported incorrectly, the application will be verified for cause.
 - <u>Select</u> how often each type of income is received (frequency).
 W = Weekly, E = Every 2 Weeks, T = Twice per Month, M = Monthly, A = Annually

Part C. Income for Children in the Household

- <u>Record</u> total income for all children in the household who receive regular income by how often income is received (frequency). The Child Income Information Box (below) provides additional information on the types of income that needs to be reported for children in the household.
- Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.
- Annual Income Conversion: weekly x 52, every two weeks x 26, twice a month x 24, monthly x 12.

Part D. Total Household Members

<u>Record</u> the total number of children and adults in the household in the appropriate box. This number MUST be equal to the number of household members listed in Step 1 and Step 3. It is very important to list all household members as the size of the household determines the household eligibility.

Step 4: Provide Contact Information and Adult Signature

- <u>Read</u> the certification statement.
- Write your current address and contact information in the space provided. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you. If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced-price school meals.
- Print the name of the adult signing the form, sign the form, and record today's date in the appropriate spaces.
- All applications must be signed by an adult household member. By signing the application, the household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.

MUTLI-USE APPLICATION – Step 5 (Optional): Sharing Information with Other Programs

- Completing this section will not change whether your children are eligible for free and reduced-price meals.
- To provide your permission to share household information provided on the application with other programs, you MUST <u>select/circle</u> the program(s) or benefit(s) from the list.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL APPLICATION - Step 5 (Optional): Race and Ethnicity

- Completing this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.
- <u>Select</u> the child's ethnicity (select only one option)
- <u>Select</u> the child's race (select all that apply)

Return the Application

• Return the application to the mailing address listed on page 1.

Adult Income Information

Earnings from Work

- General Types of Income
- Salary, wages, cash bonuses
- Strike benefits
- U.S. Military
- Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing allowances)
- Self-Employed Worker
- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of the business from its gross receipts or revenue.

Public Assistance/ Child Support/Alimony

(Do not report the value of any cash value public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart.)

- Alimony payments
- Cash assistance from State or local government
- Child support payments from court-ordered child support or alimony decree should be reported here. Informal but regular payments should be reported as other income in the next part.
- Unemployment benefits
- Worker's compensation
- Pensions/Retirement/ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Annuities

- Income from trusts or estates
- Private Pensions or disability
- Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's benefits
- All Other Income
 - Earned interest
 - Investment income
 - Regular cash payments from outside household
 - Rental income

Child Income Information

- Earnings from Work For Example: A child has a job where she or he earns a salary or wages. Social Security, Disability Payments For Example: A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits.
- Social Security, Survivor's <u>Benefits</u> For Example: A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives social security benefits.
- Income from any other source For Example: A child receives income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust.

The income eligibility guidelines (below) are based on 130% (free) and 185% (reduced) of the federal poverty guidelines and are effective July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

Income Eligibility Guidelines

Family	Ann	ually	Monthly		Twice per	Month	Every Tv	vo Weeks	Weekly		
Size	Free Reduced		Free Reduced		Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	
1	\$19,578	\$27,861	\$1,632	\$2,322	\$816	\$1,161	\$753	\$1,072	\$377	\$536	
2	\$26,572	\$37,814	\$2,215	\$3,152	\$1,108	\$1,576	\$1,022	\$1,455	\$511	\$728	
3	\$33,566	\$47,767	\$2,798	\$3,981	\$1,399	\$1,991	\$1,291	\$1,838	\$646	\$919	
4	\$40,560	\$57,720	\$3,380	\$4,810	\$1,690	\$2,405	\$1,560	\$2,220	\$780	\$1,110	
5	\$47,554	\$67,673	\$3,963	\$5,640	\$1,982	\$2,820	\$1,829	\$2,603	\$915	\$1,302	
6	\$54,548	\$77,626	\$4,546	\$6,469	\$2,273	\$3,235	\$2,098	\$2,986	\$1,049	\$1,493	
7	\$61,542	\$87,579	\$5,129	\$7,299	\$2,565	\$3,650	\$2,367	\$3,369	\$1,184	\$1,685	
8	\$68,536	\$97,532	\$5,712	\$8,128	\$2,856	\$4,064	\$2,636	\$3,752	\$1,318	\$1,876	
	For each additional family member add:										
	\$6,994	\$9,953	\$583	\$830	\$292	\$415	\$269	\$383	\$135	\$192	