FISCAL YEAR 2015 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

The United States Department of Agriculture has issued the following income guidelines for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015:

Income Eligibility Guidelines Effective from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015

		30% Fede	Free Meals 130% Federal Poverty Guideline	uideline		Guideline		Re 185% Fe	Reduced-Price Meals Federal Poverty Guic	Reduced-Price Meals 185% Federal Poverty Guideline	
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
	15,171	1,265	633	584	292	1	21,590	1,800	006	831	416
2	20,449	1,705	853	787	394	2	29,101	2,426	1,213	1,120	560
က	25,727	2,144	1,072	066	495	က	36,612	3,051	1,526	1,409	705
4	31,005	2,584	1,292	1,193	265	4	44,123	3,677	1,839	1,698	849
S	36,283	3,024	1,512	1,396	869	5	51,634	4,303	2,152	1,986	993
9	41,561	3,464	1,732	1,599	800	9	59,145	4,929	2,465	2,275	1,138
	46,839	3,904	1,952	1,802	901	7	99'99	5,555	2,778	2,564	1,282
ω	52,117	4,344	2,172	2,005	1,003	8	74,167	6,181	3,091	2,853	1,427
For each additional family member, add	5,278	440	. 220	203	102	For each additional family member, add	7,511	626	313	289	145

The following is the definition of income:

(10) private pensions or annuities; (11) alimony or child support payments; (12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; (13) net royalties; and (14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts, and Income is defined as any monies earned before any deductions such as income taxes, social security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions, and bonds. It includes the following: (1) monetary compensation for services including wages, salary, commissions, or fees; (2) net income from non-farm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) social security; (5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; (6) net rental income; (7) public assistance or welfare payments; (8) unemployment compensation; (9) government civilian employee or military retirement or pensions or veteran payments; other resources which would be available to pay the price of a child's meal.

Door	Daror	st/C:u	ardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn.	offers healthy meals every school day.	Breakfast costs \$; lunc	ch costs \$ Your
children may qualify for free meals or for a reduced price meals. Reduced pric	e is \$ for breakfast and \$	for lunch. To apply for free or i	reduced-price meals, use
the Household Eligibility Application, which is enclosed. We cannot approve an	application that is not complete, so be sur	e to fill out all required information	on. Return the completed
application to:			

Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

Income Eligibility Guidelines Effective from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015

Reduced-Price Meals 185% Federal Poverty Guideline

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	21,590	1,800	900	831	416
2	29,101	2,426	1,213	1,120	560
3	36,612	3,051	1,526	1,409	705
4	44,123	3,677	1,839	1,698	849
5	51,634	4,303	2,152	1,986	993
6	59,145	4,929	2,465	2,275	1,138
7	66,656	5,555	2,778	2,564	1,282
8	74,167	6,181	3,091	2,853	1,427
For each additional family member, add	7,511	626	313	289	145

- DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Household Eligibility
 Application for all students in your household per district. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed
 application to the school.
- 2. WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS? All children in households receiving benefits from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and/or are foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant also qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please contact your school to see if your child(ren) qualifies.
- 3. WHO CAN GET REDUCED PRICE MEALS? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown above.
- 4. A MEMBER OF MY HOUSEHOLD RECEIVED SNAP OR TANF BENEFITS. THE SCHOOL SENT A LETTER STATING THAT MY CHILD IS AUTOMATICALLY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS BASED ON DIRECT CERTIFICATION. DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING MORE TO ENSURE THAT MY CHILD RECEIVES FREE MEALS? No. You do not need to do anything more to receive free meals for your child. If you have students not listed on the letter, contact the school immediately. If you do not wish to receive the free meals, you should follow the steps outlined in the letter from the school to notify school personnel immediately.
- 5. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
- 6. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out the enclosed application.
- 7. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof.
- 8. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 9. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to the person listed above.
- 10. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- 11. WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
- 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. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME? If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- 14. MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME? No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
- 15. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for SNAP, TANF or other assistance benefits, contact your local Department of Human Services office or call (800) 843-6154 (voice) or (800) 447-6404 (TTY).

Sincerely,

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING - COMPLETE ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD PER SCHOOL DISTRICT

IF YOUR HOUSEHOLD RECEIVES SNAP OR TANF BENEFITS, FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR SCHOOL:

- Part 1: List all household members, school and grade for each student, and a SNAP or TANF case number for any household member including adults receiving such benefits. (Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.).
- Part 2: Skip this part.
- Part 3: Skip this part.
- Part 4: Sign the form. (The last four digits of a Social Security Number are not necessary.)
- Part 5, 6, 7: Contact Information, Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities, and All Kids Information: Answer these questions if you choose to. (Optional)

IF NO ONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD GETS SNAP OR TANF BENEFITS AND IF ANY CHILD IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS HOMELESS, A MIGRANT OR RUNAWAY OR HEAD START/EVEN START, FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTION AND RETURN THE COMPLETE FORM TO YOUR SCHOOL:

- Part 1: List all household members and the name of school for each child.
- Part 2: If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway check the appropriate box and call your school.
- Part 3: Complete only if a child in your household isn't eligible under Part 2. See instructions for All Other Households.
- Part 4: Sign the form. Only if part 3 is completed, please include the last four digits of a Social Security Number. (or mark the box if s/he doesn't have one).
- Part 5, 6, 7: Contact Information, Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities, and All Kids Information: Answer these questions if you choose to. (Optional)

IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR A FOSTER CHILD, FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR SCHOOL:

If <u>all</u> children in the household are foster children that are the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court:

- Part 1: List all foster children and the school name for each child. Check the "Foster Child" box for each foster child.
- Part 2: Skip this part.
- Part 3: Skip this part.
- Part 4: Sign the form. The last four digits of a Social Security Number are not necessary.
- Part 5, 6, 7: Contact Information, Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities, and All Kids Information: Answer these questions if you choose to. (Optional)

If some of the children in the household are foster children are foster children that are the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court:

- Part 1: List all household members and the name of school for each child. For any person, including children, with no income, you must check the "No Income" box. Check the "Foster Child" box for each foster child.
- Part 2: If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway check the appropriate box and call your school.
- Part 3: Follow these instructions to report total household income from this month or last month.
- Box 1-Name: List all household members with income.
- Box 2 –Gross Income and How Often It Was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must tell us how often the money is received—weekly, every other week, twice a month or monthly. For earnings, be sure to list the gross income, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your pay stub or your boss can tell you. For other income, list the amount each person got for the month from welfare, child support, alimony, pensions, retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), and disability benefits. Under All Other Income, list Worker's Compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster payments received by the family from the placing agency. For ONLY the self-employed, under Earnings from Work, report income after expenses. This is for your business, farm, or rental property. If you are in the Military Privatized Housing Initiative or get combat pay, do not include these allowances as income.
- Part 4: Adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (or mark the box if s/he doesn't have one).
- Part 5, 6, 7: Contact Information, Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities, and All Kids Information: Answer these questions if you choose to. (Optional)

ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS INCLUDING WIC HOUSEHOLDS, FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

- Part 1: List all household members and the name of school for each child. For any person, including children, with no income, you must check the "No Income" box.
- Part 2: If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway check the appropriate box and call your school.
- Part 3: Follow these instructions to report total household income from this month or last month.
- Box 1-Name: List all household members with income.
- Box 2—Gross Income and How Often It Was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must tell us how often the money is received—weekly, every other week, twice a month or monthly. For earnings, be sure to list the gross income, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your pay stub or your boss can tell you. For other income, list the amount each person got for the month from welfare, child support, alimony, pensions, retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), and disability benefits. Under All Other Income, list Worker's Compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster payments received by the family from the placing agency. For ONLY the self-employed, under Earnings from Work, report income after expenses. This is for your business, farm, or rental property. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC or Federal education benefits. If you are in the Military Privatized Housing Initiative or get combat pay, do not include these allowances as income.
- Part 4: Adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (or mark the box if s/he doesn't have one).
- Part 5, 6, 7: Contact Information, Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities, and All Kids Information: Answer these questions if you choose to. (Optional)

Privacy Act Statement: This explains how we will use the information you give us. 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.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to the USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenué, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program. intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

APPLICATION FOR FREE MILK/MEAL AND R	EDUCED-PRICE MEA	LS-Complete O	ne Application Per H	lousehold Per S	Schoo	ol Distric	ct. Ins	struct	ions c	n bac	k.		HERRERIE	energine	all angul	heemaa	ONLY	96101011	TERMENIII IN THE
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2. Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, or Homeless Migrant		gorically eligi ead Start	ble) Signature of Your	School Homele	ss Lla	ison, M									of a	velfa	e agend Date		court.
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4. Signature and Social Security N	umber (Adult mus	st sign)																	
An adult household member must sign the a in Part 1, the adult signing the form must al or mark the I do not have a social security I certify (promise) all information on this a ficials may verify (check) the information.	number box.									d on t be pr	he in	forma cuted.		curit I giv	•			sch	ool of-
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5. Contact Information (Optional)			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,																
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6. Children's Racial and Ethnic Ide	entities (Optional))																	
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