



2017-2018 Massachusetts Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

If you have received a Notice of Direct Certification – FREE from the school district for free meals, do not complete this application. DO let the school know if any children in the household are not listed on the Notice of Direct Certification – FREE letter you received.

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 of Household Member: "Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related." Children in Foster care and children who meet the definition of Homeless, Migrant or Runaway are eligible for free meals. Read How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals for more information.

Child's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	School Name	Grade	Student? Grade Yes or No		Foster	Homeless	Migrant	Runaway
					Y	N				
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 2 Do any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR?

Write the Agency ID Number, then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3) Do not provide EBT card number. Agency ID Number: _____

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

Review the charts titled "Sources of Income" for more information. The "Sources of Income for Children" chart will help you with the Child Income section. The "Sources of Income for Adults" chart will help you with the All Adult Household Members section

A. Child Income Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income. Please include the TOTAL income received by all Household Members listed in STEP 1 here:

Child Income \$ _____

How often? Weekly Bi Weekly 2x Month Monthly

B. All Adult Household Members (including yourself) List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income (before taxes) for each source in whole dollars (no cents) only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Earnings from Work	How often?				Public Assistance/ Child Support/ Alimony	How often?				Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income	How often?			
		Weekly	Bi Weekly	2x Month	Monthly		Weekly	Bi Weekly	2x Month	Monthly		Weekly	Bi Weekly	2x Month	Monthly
		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Total Household Members (Children and Adults) _____ Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Primary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Member XXX-XX-____ Check if no SSN

STEP 4 Contact Information and Adult Signature Mail Completed Form To: Brenda Fondakowski - Tri-County Schools, 201 East Street, Easthampton, MA 01027

"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."

Street Address (if available) _____ Apt # _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Daytime Phone and Email (optional) _____

Printed name of adult signing the form _____ Signature of adult _____ Today's date _____

Error prone

INSTRUCTIONS

Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children		Sources of Income for Adults		
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)	Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income
- Earnings from work	- A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages	- Salary, wages, cash bonuses	- Unemployment benefits	- Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
- Social Security	- A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits	- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)	- Worker's compensation	- Private pensions or disability benefits
- Disability Payments	- A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits	- Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)	- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	- Regular income from trusts or estates
- Survivor's Benefits		- Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	- Cash assistance from State or local government	- Annuities
- Income from person outside the household	- A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money		- Alimony payments	- Investment income
- Income from any other source	- A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust		- Child support payments	- Earned interest
			- Veteran's benefits	- Rental income
			- Strike benefits	- 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.

Ethnicity (check one):

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino

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.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, 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: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
 fax: (202) 690-7442; or
 email: program.intake@usda.gov
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For School Use Only

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Total Income: _____ Household Size: _____

Only annualize income if there are multiple pay frequencies

How often? Weekly Bi Weekly 2x Month Month Annually

Annual Income Conversion	
Weekly	x 52
Every 2 Weeks	x 26
Twice A Month	x 24
Monthly	x 12

Eligibility: Free Reduced Denial

Categorical Eligibility

Determining Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Confirming Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Verifying Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____