

## 2018-2019 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals/Milk

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and **return it to Wynantskill UFSD, 25 East Avenue, Troy, NY, 12180**. Call Food Services Director Lori Audi at 518-283-4600 ext. 22, if you need help. Additional names may be listed on a separate paper.

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

| Student Name | School | Grade/Teacher | Foster Child             | Homeless Migrant, Runaway |
|--------------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
|              |        |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  |

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. **Skip to Part 4, and sign the application.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE #: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Report all income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'yes' to step 2) **All Household Members (including yourself and all children that have income).**

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 income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any other 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 household member | Earnings from work before deductions<br><i>Amount / How Often</i> | Child Support, Alimony<br><i>Amount / How Often</i> | Pensions, Retirement Payments<br><i>Amount / How Often</i> | Other Income, Social Security<br><i>Amount / How Often</i> | No Income                |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|--------------------------|
|                          | \$ _____ / _____  | \$ _____ / _____                                    | \$ _____ / _____   | \$ _____ / _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | \$ _____ / _____  | \$ _____ / _____                                    | \$ _____ / _____   | \$ _____ / _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | \$ _____ / _____  | \$ _____ / _____                                    | \$ _____ / _____   | \$ _____ / _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | \$ _____ / _____  | \$ _____ / _____                                    | \$ _____ / _____   | \$ _____ / _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | \$ _____ / _____  | \$ _____ / _____                                    | \$ _____ / _____   | \$ _____ / _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Total Household Members (Children and Adults)

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

\* Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX-\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_

I do not have a SS#

\*When completing section 3, an adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SS#), or mark the "I do not have a SS# box" before the application can be approved.

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Ethnicity and Race are optional; responding to this section does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity:  Hispanic or Latino  Not Hispanic or Latino

Race:  American Indian or Alaskan Native  Asian  Black or African American  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island  White

### DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

**Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application) Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12**

- SNAP/TANF/Foster
- Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Household Size: \_\_\_\_\_
- Free Meals  Reduced Price Meals  Denied/Paid

Signature of Reviewing Official \_\_\_\_\_ Date Notice Sent: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

If you have a foster child in your household, you may include them on your application. A separate application is not needed. Call the school if you need help at 518-283-4600, ext. 22. Ensure that all information is provided. Failure to do so may result in denial of benefits for your child or unnecessary delay in approving your application.

### **PART 1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.**

- (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one application.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, or if you believe any child meets the description for homeless, migrant, runaway (a school staff will confirm this eligibility).

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### **PART 2 HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.**

- (1) List a current SNAP, TANF or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4. SKIP PART 3. Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP case number, TANF or FDPIR number.

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### **PART 3 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE THESE PARTS AND ALL OF PART 4.**

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are applying for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. **Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box.** The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should **not** be considered as income for this program.
- (3) Enter the total number of household members in the box provided. This number should include all adults and children in the household and should reflect the members listed in PART 1 and PART 3.
- (4) The application must include the last four digits only of the social security number of the adult who signs **PART 4** if Part 3 is completed. If the adult does not have a social security number, check the box. **If you listed a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR number, a social security number is not needed.**
- (5) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 4.

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**OTHER BENEFITS:** Your child may be eligible for benefits such as Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). To determine if your child is eligible, program officials need information from your free and reduced price meal application. Your written consent is required before any information may be released. Please refer to the attached parent Disclosure Letter and Consent Statement for information about other benefits.

## USE OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

Use of Information Statement: 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 submit all needed information, 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 primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. 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.

## DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

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, disability, age, 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, audiotope, 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](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](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:

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## 2018-2019 Income Eligibility Guidelines For Free and Reduced Price Meals or Free Milk

If you have any questions, please contact [Food Services Director Lori Audi](#) at 518-283-4600 ext. 22.

| Free Eligibility Scale         |          |         |                 |                 |         | Reduced Price Eligibility Scale |          |         |                 |                 |         |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|---------------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
| Free Lunch, Breakfast, Milk    |          |         |                 |                 |         | Reduced Price Lunch, Breakfast  |          |         |                 |                 |         |
| Household Size                 | Annual   | Monthly | Twice per Month | Every Two Weeks | Weekly  | Household Size                  | Annual   | Monthly | Twice per Month | Every Two Weeks | Weekly  |
| 1                              | \$15,782 | \$1,316 | \$658           | \$607           | \$304   | 1                               | \$22,459 | \$1,872 | \$936           | \$864           | \$432   |
| 2                              | \$21,398 | \$1,784 | \$892           | \$823           | \$412   | 2                               | \$30,451 | \$2,538 | \$1,269         | \$1,172         | \$586   |
| 3                              | \$27,014 | \$2,252 | \$1,126         | \$1,039         | \$520   | 3                               | \$38,443 | \$3,204 | \$1,602         | \$1,479         | \$740   |
| 4                              | \$32,630 | \$2,720 | \$1,360         | \$1,255         | \$628   | 4                               | \$46,435 | \$3,870 | \$1,935         | \$1,786         | \$893   |
| 5                              | \$38,246 | \$3,188 | \$1,594         | \$1,471         | \$736   | 5                               | \$54,427 | \$4,536 | \$2,268         | \$2,094         | \$1,047 |
| 6                              | \$43,862 | \$3,656 | \$1,828         | \$1,687         | \$844   | 6                               | \$62,419 | \$5,202 | \$2,601         | \$2,401         | \$1,201 |
| 7                              | \$49,478 | \$4,124 | \$2,062         | \$1,903         | \$952   | 7                               | \$70,411 | \$5,868 | \$2,934         | \$2,709         | \$1,355 |
| 8                              | \$55,094 | \$4,592 | \$2,296         | \$2,119         | \$1,060 | 8                               | \$78,403 | \$6,534 | \$3,267         | \$3,016         | \$1,508 |
| For Each Additional Person Add | \$5,616  | \$468   | \$234           | \$216           | \$108   | For Each Additional Person Add  | \$7,992  | \$666   | \$333           | \$308           | \$154   |

**SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Households:** Households that currently include children who receive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) but who are not found during the Direct Certification Matching Process (DCMP), or households that currently receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) must complete an application listing the child's name, a valid SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. Eligibility for free meal benefits based on participation in SNAP, TANF or FDPIR is extended to all children in the household. When known to the School Food Authority, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free meals based on their participation in the SNAP, TANF or the FDPIR programs. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

**Other Source Categorical Eligibility:** When known to the School Food Authority, households will be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals based on the individual child's designation as Other Source Categorically Eligible, as defined by law. Children are determined Other Source Categorically Eligible if they are Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, a foster child, or Enrolled in Head Start or an eligible pre-kindergarten program.



# THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

## 1. What is the National School Lunch Program?

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or no-cost lunches to children each school day. The program was established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, signed into law by President Harry Truman in 1946.

About 7.1 million children participated in the NSLP in its first year. Since then, the Program has reached millions of children nationwide: 1970: 22.4 million children; 1980: 26.6 million children; 1990: 21.1 million children; 2000: 27.3 million children; 2010: 31.8 million children; and 2016: 30.4 million children.

## 2. Who administers the NSLP?

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers the Program at the Federal level. At the State level, the NSLP is administered by State agencies, which operate the Program through agreements with school food authorities. State agency contact information is available at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/school-meals-contacts>.

## 3. How does the Program work?

The NSLP is generally operated by public or non-profit private schools of high school grade or below. Public or non-profit private residential child care institutions may also participate in the NSLP, and charter schools may

participate in the NSLP as public schools. Participating school districts and independent schools receive cash subsidies and USDA Foods for each reimbursable meal they serve. In exchange, NSLP institutions must serve lunches that meet Federal meal pattern requirements and offer the lunches at a free or reduced price to eligible children. School food authorities can also be reimbursed for snacks served to children who participate in an approved afterschool program including an educational or enrichment activity.”

## 4. What are the nutrition requirements for NSLP lunches?

All NSLP lunches must meet Federal requirements, though decisions about the specific foods to serve and the methods of preparation are made by local school food authorities. Information about the NSLP nutrition standards, along with technical assistance and guidance materials, may be found on the School Meals website: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/nutrition-standards-school-meals>.

## 5. How can children qualify for free or reduced price school lunch?

Children may be determined “categorically eligible” for free meals through participation in certain Federal Assistance Programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or based on their status as a homeless, migrant, runaway, or foster child.

Children enrolled in a federally-funded Head Start Program, or a comparable State-funded pre-kindergarten program, are also categorically eligible for free meals.

Children can also qualify for free or reduced price school meals based on household income and family size. Children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty level are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130 and 185 percent of the Federal poverty level are eligible for reduced price meals. Schools may not charge children more than 40 cents for a reduced price lunch. To see the current Income Eligibility Guidelines, please visit: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines>.

### 6. What are the current reimbursement rates for participating schools?

School food authorities are reimbursed for meals based on children’s free, reduced price, or paid eligibility status. For current reimbursement rates, please visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/rates-reimbursement>. School food authorities that are certified to be in compliance with the Program meal pattern receive an extra 6 cents for each lunch served. Additionally, schools in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are eligible for a higher reimbursement rate, due to the higher cost of food in those areas.

### 7. What types of foods do participating schools receive from USDA?

In addition to cash reimbursements, schools receive USDA Foods. States select USDA Foods for their schools from a list of foods purchased by USDA and provided through the NSLP. Schools can also receive bonus USDA Foods as they are available from surplus agricultural stocks. The variety of USDA Foods schools receive depends on available quantities and market prices. For more information about USDA Foods, please see: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/food-distribution-programs>.

### 8. What additional support do schools receive from FNS?

Through its Team Nutrition initiative, FNS provides training and technical assistance to school nutrition professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that meet the Program meal pattern requirements and appeal to children. The Team Nutrition Resource Library has web-based resources available to help children and school nutrition professionals understand the link between diet and health. State and local Program operators may request free printed copies of certain Team Nutrition materials. To learn more, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition>.

FNS is also working to increase the availability of fresh produce in schools. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program introduces children at participating low-income elementary schools to a variety of produce they otherwise might not have the opportunity to taste. In addition, through the Farm to School initiative, FNS helps school food authorities incorporate fresh, local produce into school lunch menus.

### 9. Where can I go to learn more about the NSLP?

For more information about the NSLP, please contact the State agency responsible for the administration of the Program in your State: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/school-meals-contacts>.

