

HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS - 2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR

DEAR PARENT OR GUARDIAN:
The Morongo Unified School District takes part in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. Nutritious meals are served every school day. Students eligible for reduced meals can purchase breakfast for \$0.30 and/or lunch for \$0.40.

HOW TO FILL OUT THIS APPLICATION - PLEASE PRINT NEATLY WITH BLACK INK. PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS. COMPLETE ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD.

DO NOT USE PENCIL OR COLORED INK TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION.

STEP 1: LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WHO ARE STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12. For each student, print their birthdate, first name, last name, grade and school. Use one line of the application for each student. When printing names, write one letter in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If there are more students present than lines on the application, attach a second application with all required information for the additional students. If any students listed are foster children, check the "Foster Child" box. Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are only applying for foster children, complete STEP 1 and then skip to STEP 4 on the application and follow the instructions from STEP 4. If you believe any student listed in this section may be Homeless, Migrant or Runaway check the appropriate box and complete all steps of the application.

STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (INCLUDING ADULTS) CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) or The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)? If anyone in your household participates in the assistance programs listed, your children are eligible for free school meals. Select the benefit type and enter a current case number.

INCOMPLETE, ILLEGIBLE, OR INCORRECT APPLICATIONS WILL DELAY MEAL BENEFITS.

FOSTER CARE CHILDREN or CHILDREN PLACED IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE: Write the name of the child and the specific school the child attends. If the child receives personal-use income, list the amount of income. Personal-use income is (1) money given by the welfare office identified by category for the child's personal use, such as clothing, school fees, and allowances; and (2) all other money the child receives, such as money from family and earnings from full-time or regular part-time employment. The foster parent or agency official must sign the application.

WIC PARTICIPANTS: If you currently receive benefits under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children - better known as the WIC Program, your child may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. You are encouraged to complete an application and return it to the school for processing.

MILITARY HOUSING INCOME: If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, DO NOT include your housing allowance as income. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

MEALS FOR DISABLED: If you believe your child needs a food substitute or texture modification because of a disability, please contact Nutritional Services at (760) 367-9191. A child with a disability is entitled to a special meal at no extra charge if the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meals.

APPLY FOR GAINS DOWN: You may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If you are not eligible now but your income goes down, you lose your job, your family size becomes larger, or you become eligible for Food Stamps, CalWORKs or FDPIR benefits, you may complete an application at that time.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Family size, household income, and Social Security number information will remain confidential and will not be shared for any purpose. Information you provide will determine your child(ren)'s eligibility to receive free or reduced-price meals.

INFORMATION STATEMENT: The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to provide the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced-price meals. If you are submitting an income-based application, 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 are not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child; list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child; or indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a Social Security Number. We will use your household size and income 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.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATION (FDPIR): Households participating in the FDPIR are categorically eligible for free meals or milk. The FDPIR is authorized by Section 4(b) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977. Under this section, eligible households may elect to participate in either the Food Stamp Program or the FDPIR. Since households are afforded the option to participate in either program, FDPIR households have been determined to receive the same categorical benefits as Food Stamp households.

FAIR HEARING: If you do not agree with the District's decision regarding your application or the result of verification, you may discuss it with Nutritional Services. You also have the right to a fair hearing. A fair hearing may be requested by calling or writing the following school official: Sharon Flores, 5715 Utah Trail, PO Box 1209, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277, (760) 367 9191.

VERIFICATION: School officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year. You may be asked to send information to prove your income, or current eligibility for Food Stamps, CalWORKs or FDPIR. Nutritional Services will notify you by mail when your application is approved or denied.

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

A) Report all income earned by students. Report the combined gross income for ALL students listed in Step 1 in your household. Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household. It is optional for the household to list foster children living with them as part of the household.

B) List All Other Household member's names and income. Do not list any household members you listed in STEP 1.

C) Report total household size. This number MUST be equal to the number of household members listed in STEP 1 and STEP 3.

D) Provide the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the adult signing the application. If you do not have a Social Security Number leave this space blank and check the box labeled "Check box if NO SSN"

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE. All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. Provide your contact information.

OPTIONAL: SHARE CHILDREN'S RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITIES. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals.

NON-DISCRIMINATION: Children who receive free or reduced priced meals must be treated in the same manner as those children who pay full price for their meals.

DIRECT CERTIFICATION: This district participates in Direct Certification. If your household receives Food Stamps or if your child(ren) receives CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits, then 1) your child may be automatically certified to receive free meals, 2) if you did not receive a direct certification letter for your child who is in any of these programs, you must complete an application. If you do not receive notification, but think your child(ren) is/are eligible for free meals, please call Nutritional Services at (760) 367-9191.

INCOME TO REPORT

Earnings from Work	Salary, wages, cash bonuses, Net income from self-employment (farm or business), Strike benefits
Public Assistance/Alimony/Child Support	Unemployment benefits, Worker's compensation, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government, Alimony payments, Child support payments, Veteran's benefits
Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income	Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits), Private pensions or disability, Income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income, Regular cash payments from outside household

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES Effective July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Household Members	Use the income chart below to see if you qualify for the free or reduced price meal program.		
	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks
1	\$1,860	\$930	\$430
2	\$2,311	\$1,156	\$578
3	\$3,044	\$1,575	\$727
4	\$3,777	\$1,897	\$876
5	\$4,510	\$2,219	\$1,024
6	\$5,243	\$2,541	\$1,173
7	\$6,076	\$2,863	\$1,322
8	\$6,909	\$3,186	\$1,471
For EACH additional household member add:	\$7,733	\$3,232	\$2,981

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, 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) 632-9982. 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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

