

ISD #2884 100 6th Avenue East PO Box 278 Lamberton, MN 56152

Todd Lee - Superintendent

Greg Ewing - Principal

Colby Pack - Dean of Students

#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school offers healthy meals each day. All students can get one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school. Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your child(ren) may qualify for other benefits like reduced fees at school. Your confidential application may also help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs.

To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits and return it to:

Red Rock Central, Attn: Kalea Jorgens PO Box 278 Lamberton, MN 56152

Who should complete this application? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children qualify without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can qualify if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions.

## **COMMON QUESTIONS:**

I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children qualify? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify. Children may be eligible depending on other household financial information. Please fill out an application.

Who should I include as household members? Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends).

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for you to complete an application.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get overtime only sometimes. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

Will the income information or case number I give be checked? It may be. We may also ask you to send written proof.

**How will the information be kept?** Information you provide on the form, and your child's approval, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits.

**If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits.

If you have other questions or need help, call 507-540-0655.

Sincerely, Kalea Jorgens, Lunch Coordinator





#### **How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits**

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2024–25 if any of the following applies to your household:

- Any household member currently participates in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or
- The household includes one or more foster children (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child) or
- The total income of household members is within the guidelines shown below (gross earnings before deductions, not takehome pay). Do not include as income: foster care payments, federal education benefits, MFIP payments, or value of assistance received from SNAP, WIC, or FDPIR. Military: Do not include combat pay or assistance from the Military Privatized Housing Initiative. The income guidelines are effective from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

#### **Maximum Total Income**

Household size	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	27,861	2,322	1,161	1,072	536
2	37,814	3,152	1,576	1,455	728
3	47,767	3,981	1,991	1,838	919
4	57,720	4,810	2,405	2,220	1,110
5	67,673	5,640	2,820	2,603	1,302
6	77,626	6,469	3,235	2,986	1,493
7	87,579	7,299	3,650	3,369	1,685
8	97,532	8,128	4,064	3,752	1,876
Add for each additional person	9,953	830	415	383	192

#### Step 1: Children

List all infants and children in the household, their school and grade if applicable, and birthdate. Attach an additional page if needed to list all children. Check the box if a child is in foster care (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child).

## Step 2: Case Number

If any household member currently participates in SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR, write in the case number and then go to Step 4. If you do not participate in any of these programs, leave Step 2 blank and continue on to Step 3.

#### Step 3: Adult and Child Incomes / Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

- Social Security Number/Total Household Members. An adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number or check the box if they do not have a Social Security number. Report the total number of household members and ensure all household members are listed individually on the application in the child or adult section as applicable.
- **Child Income**. If any children in the household have regular income, such as SSI or part-time jobs, list the total amount of regular incomes received by all children, and check the box for the frequency: weekly, bi-weekly, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include occasional earnings like babysitting or lawn mowing.
- Adult income. Report the names of adult household members and income earned in this section.
  - o List all adults living in the household not listed in Step 1, whether related or not, such as grandparents, relatives, or friends.
  - o **Gross Earnings from Work**. This is usually the money received from working at jobs where a paycheck is received. For each income, check the box to show how often the income is received: weekly, bi-weekly, twice per month, or monthly.
  - List gross incomes before deductions, not take-home pay. Do not list an hourly wage rate. For adults with no income to report, enter a '0' or leave the section blank. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.
  - Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer? List the net income per month or year after business expenses. Do not list the same income twice on the application. A loss from farm or self-employment must be listed as 0 income and does not reduce other income.
  - Any Other Gross Income. List gross incomes before deductions from all other sources, such as SSI, unemployment, child support, public assistance, social security, rental income or annuities.

**Step 4: Signature and Contact Information** An adult household member must sign the form. If you do not want your information to be shared with Minnesota Health Care Programs, check the "Don't share" box in Step 4.

**Optional:** Please provide the information on ethnicity and race that is requested on the second page of the form. This information is not required and does not affect approval for school meal benefits. The information helps to ensure we are meeting civil rights requirements and fully serving our community.



# 2024–25 Application for Educational Benefits

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use pen (not a pencil). Mail or return completed form to: Red Rock Central Attn: Kalea Jorgens, PO Box 278 Lamberton, MN 56152

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:** A Household Member is "Anyone living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related." Read *How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits* for more information. Adults over grade 12 living in the same household should be reported in Step 3. If your children attend different districts or charter/nonpublic schools, return an application at each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child	's Last N	Name	•					Schoo	ol			Gr	ade		Bir	thdate		Foster	Child (v)
<b>EP 2:</b> Do Any Household Members (including you) c  If YES >Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDF	PIR Case N	umber	(betwee	en 4-	9 digi	ts, do ı	not report EBT card number														<u>3</u> )
<b>EP 3:</b> Report Income for ALL Household Members (S	skip this ste	ep if yo	ou answ	ered	'Yes'	to STE	P 2)														
Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN)	of <u>Adult</u> H	Househ	old Mer	mber	: <b>XXX</b>	-xx- [	Or Chec	k if Ac	dult has	No SS	SN:	] <sub>To</sub>	tal N	umbe	r of All	House	hold	Memb	<b>ers</b> (Chi	ldren + Adu	ılts)
Child Income.																					
Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income, such as from a part time job or SSI. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do not include income received by adults in the box to the right.							ed by All Children			Wee	kly	Bi-we	eekly	2x Month	Monthly						
	\$									]		]									
All Adult Household Members (including yourse fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that t with the Child Income section and All Adult House	here is no	incom	e to rep	ort. N					_			-						-			-
Names of All Adult Household Members (First and	d Last)		G	Gross	Earni	ings fr	om Working at Jobs		Are y	Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?				Any Other Gross Income					е		
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.				ы-меекіу	2x Month	Monthly	Report income <b>before deductions or taxes</b> in whole dollars (no cents).		Monthly	Net income from Farm or Self- Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere.				Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	SSI, Unemp Public Ass Child Supp others or	sistance, port, and		
				1			\$	1			\$							<u> </u>			
				-			\$	1													
				-			·	-													
		-					\$	4			\$										
							\$				\$									5	
TEP 4: Contact information and adult signature. "I co	ertify (pro	mise) t	hat all ir	nform	nation	on th	s application is true and tha	t all ir	ncome i	is repo	rted. I	unde	erstan	d that	this in	format	ion is	give in	conne	ction with tl	he receipt c
ederal funds, and that school officials may verify (che purposely give false information, my children may los osecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."	se meal be	enefits,	and I m			at if	Do Not Fill Out: For School			X52	x26	X24	X12	X1	A	erified		No hange	Free After Verified	Reduced After Verified	Denied After Verified
I have checked this box if I do not want my informa innesota Health Care Program as allowed by state la		u with					Conversions to Annualize	All III	come:						11	acker					
nted name of adult signing form		Dayti	me Phoi	ne			All Total Incom			Weekly	Bi-weekly	2X Month	Monthly	Annualize		sehold	ı	Categorical Eligibility	Free	Reduced	Denied
							(Include child and adul	LINCO	me)						3	ize:		П			
	Apt#	City	Zij	p			т														
uress (ii available)		•					Determining Official Sign	ature											Date:		
ddress (if available)  GN HERE: Signature of Household Adult			Dat	_			Determining Official Sign Confirming Official Signat						,	-			<u> </u>		Date:	<u>.                                    </u>	

#### **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. Respond to both Step One, Ethnicity and Step Two, Race.
Step One: Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino
Step Two: Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

#### **INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income**

#### Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples					
Earnings from work     Social Security     a. Disability Payments     b. Survivor's Benefits     Income from person outside the household     Income from any other source	<ul> <li>A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages</li> <li>A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security</li> <li>A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits</li> <li>A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money</li> <li>A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust</li> </ul>					

#### Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	All Other Income				
Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes)     Net income from self-employment (farm or business)     If you are in the U.S. Military:     a. Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)     b. Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	Cash Assistance from State or local government Supplemental Security Income Unemployment benefits Worker's compensation Alimony payments Child support payments Veteran's benefits Strike benefits	Social Security     Disability benefits     Regular income from trusts or estates     Annuities     Investment income     Rental income     Regular cash payments from outside household				

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.

At public school districts, each student's school meal status also is recorded on a statewide computer system used to report student data to MDE as required by state law. MDE uses this information to: (1) Administer state and federal programs, (2) Calculate compensatory revenue for public schools, and (3) Judge the quality of the state's educational program.

**Nondiscrimination statement**: 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: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf</a>, 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.