2113 Hiawatha Drive East Wabasha, MN 55981

www.wabasha-kellogg.k12.mn.us

<u>Please complete an Educational Benefits Application</u> FREE Meals (if you qualify) – FREE Activity Pass (by filling out the application)

(When you see the words "application for educational benefits", that means the free/reduced application.)

Benefits to YOU:

- 1. Your child(ren) get a free W-K activity pass!
- 2. W-K offers reduced prices on some items if you qualify (preschool tuition, 7-12 activity fees, chromebook rental).
- 3. HBC offers reduced rates if you qualify.
- 4. If you receive P-EBT benefits, and if that program continues, you need to qualify to continue receiving them.

Benefits to W-K:

- 1. A portion of the money we receive from the state is based on the number of free/reduced families in our district.
- 2. Some "e-rate" funds are available to W-K for technology.
- 3. W-K would be eligible for more grants and special programs.

EXCEPTION: If you qualified this summer by "direct certification", you do <u>NOT</u> need to fill out this application. Direct Certification is a process where the state notifies W-K that you are free without you filling out an application. (This is usually because a family receives SNAP benefits, or because a student is a foster child). You would know if this applies to you because we already mailed you a notification letter and your free activity pass.

If I put my income on this form, who will see that? If my children qualify, who will know that?

Information on the free/reduced applications is kept confidential between myself and the food service director. Students who qualify cannot be identified by other students or food service workers as they go through the lunch line.

NEW THIS YEAR! Click here to complete the application online → **IMC Online Parent Module**

If you prefer a paper copy, print the attached application or pick one up at the school. Return completed applications to the elementary / high school office or mail it to my attention at the address above.

You will need the following information for either the online or paper application.

- 1. Names of all children and adults living in your household (school, grade, and birthdate of children)
- 2. Your SNAP, MFIP, or FDPIR number, if you have one (No income information is needed if you have one of these.)
- 3. Last 4 digits of your social security number
- 4. Gross (before taxes) wages, net income from farm or business, any other income
- 5. Name, address, date, and signature
- 6. Only fill out **ONE** application per family, not one per child!

If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>ifreihammer@wkfalcons.org</u> (651.565.3559 ext. 269).

Sincerely.

Jim Freihammer

2113 Hiawatha Drive East Wabasha, MN 55981

www.wabasha-kellogg.k12.mn.us

Dear Families,

Our school provides healthy meals each day. Breakfast costs \$1.80 / lunch costs \$2.90

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits following the instructions. A new application must be submitted each year. At public schools, your application also helps the school qualify for education funds and discounts.

State funds help to pay for reduced-price school meals, so all students who are approved for either free or reduced-price school meals will receive school meals at no charge. State funds also help to pay for breakfasts for kindergarten students, so all kindergarten students can receive breakfasts at no charge.

To apply for free school meals, please complete the Application for Educational Benefits form. Return your completed Application for Educational Benefits (Free and Reduced Meals) to: Elementary or High School office.

Who can get free school meals? 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 can get free school meals without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can get free school meals 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 get free school meals? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify for free meals. Children may be eligible for free or reduced-price school meals 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 your children to qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

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 for meal benefits, 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.

Please provide the information requested about children's racial identity and ethnicity, which helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. This information is not required for approval of school meal benefits.

If you have other questions or need help, call me at 651-565-3559 ext. 269 or email me @ ifreihammer@wkfalcons.org

Sincerely,

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How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2022-23 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, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Maximum Total Income

| Household size | \$ Per Year | \$ Per Month | \$ Twice Per Month | \$ Per 2 Weeks | \$ Per Week | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|--|
| 1 | 25,142 | 2,096 | 1,048 | 967 | 484 | |
| 2 | 33,874 | 2,823 | 1,412 | 1,303 | 652 | |
| 3 | 42,606 | 3,551 | 1,776 | 1,639 | 820 | |
| 4 | 51,338 | 4,279 | 2,140 | 1,975 | 988 | |
| 5 | 60,070 | 5,006 | 2,503 | 2,311 | 1,156 | |
| 6 | 68,802 | 5,734 | 2,867 | 2,647 | 1,324 | |
| 7 | 77,534 | 6,462 | 3,231 | 2,983 | 1,492 | |
| 8 | 86,266 | 7,189 | 3,595 | 3,318 | 1,659 | |
| Add for each additional person | 8,732 | 728 | 364 | 336 | 168 | |

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.



2022-23 Application for Educational Benefits

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use pen (not a pencil). Mail or return completed form to: (School/District Information) W-K Schools, 2113 Hiawatha Drive East, Wabasha, MN 55981

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." Children in Foster care are eligible for free meals. 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 C | hild's L | ast Nan | ne | | | | Scho | ol | | | Grad | le | | Birthda | ate | Fo | ster C | Child (v) |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------|-------------|---|------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently part If YES >Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR Case Num TEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step | ber (be | tween | 4-9 dig | its, do | not report EBT card number) _ | | | | | | | | | | | io to STEF mplete S | | |
| Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Hol Child Income. | • | | | | | Adult | has No S | sn: |] т₀ | tal N | umber | of All Ho | ouseho | ld Mer | mbers (| Children + | - Adult | is) |
| Sometimes children in the household earn or receive incom TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do n | | | • | • | | | Total Inc | ome R | eceive | d by A | All Child | iren | Weekly | , Bi- | -weekly | 2x Mo | onth | Month |
| | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no including with the Child Income section and All Adult Household Members. | come to | report tion. | . Not sı | ure wha | at income to include here? Flip | the pa | ge and re | eview ' | 'Sourc | es of | ncome | | | on. "So | ources (| of Income | " will h | |
| Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last) | Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer? Any Other Gro | | | | | | | ross Inco | ne | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | • | | | _ | , | | | | | |
| 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. | Weekly | Bi-weekly | 2x Month | Monthly | Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). | Monthly | Yearly | Emp | et inco Farm o loyme | me from Self | om - o not | Weekly | Bi-weekly | 2x Month | Monthly | Public As Support | sistan | others or |
| List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children | □ Weekly | ☐ Bi-weekly | □ 2x Month | Monthly | deductions or taxes in | Monthly | | Emp | Farm o | me from Self | om - o not | □ Weekly | ☐ Bi-weekly | ☐ 2x Month | Monthly | Public As Support | sistan and o | nce, Chilo others o |
| List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children | | | | | deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). | | | Emp dupl | Farm o | me from Self | om - o not | | | | | Public As Support | sistan and o | nce, Chilo others o |
| List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children | | | | | deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). \$ | | | Emp dupl \$ | Farm o | me from Self | om - o not | | | | | Public As Support | sistan and o | nce, Chilo others or |
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| 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. TEP 4: Contact information and adult signature. "I certify (promisederal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the inforturposely give false information, my children may lose meal beneficials under applicable State and Federal laws." | se) that mation. | all info | □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ | □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ | deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). \$ \$ \$ \$ | | ne is repr | Emp dupl \$ \$ \$ ported. | Farm o | me fr or Self ent. Do elsewl | om o not nere. | | matior | | in con | Public A: Support, \$ \$ \$ \$ mection w e Redder Africed Veri | and o Page 2 | e receip |
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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. Respond to both Step One, Ethnicity and Step Two, Race. |

| Step One: Ethnicity (check one): | Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or L | Latino | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Step Two: Race (check one or more): | American Indian or Alaskan Native | Asian | Black or African American | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | r White |

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

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

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: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, 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.