

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Grand Forks Public School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast **costs \$1.10 (K-5) and \$1.35 (6-12)** lunch costs **\$2.10 (K-5) and \$2.35 (6-12)**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is 0 (30 cents paid by the state) for breakfast and **\$.40** for lunch.

1. **DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. **Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.** We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **any School Office or the Child Nutrition Office, 2115 6th Ave. N., Grand Forks, ND 58203**
2. **WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?** All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or the Temporary Assistance Program for Needy Families (TANF) can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free or reduced price meals if your household income is within the limits on the Federal Income Chart.
3. **CAN FOSTER CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income.
4. **CAN HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, AND MIGRANT CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call the Child Nutrition Office at 746-2436 to see if they qualify.
5. **SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS?** Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the Child Nutrition Office at 746-2436 if you have questions.

FEDERAL INCOME CHART For School Year 2015-2016			
Household Size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$21,775	\$1,815	\$419
2	\$29,471	\$2,456	\$567
3	\$37,167	\$3,098	\$715
4	\$44,863	\$3,739	\$863
5	\$52,559	\$4,380	\$1,011
6	\$60,255	\$5,022	\$1,159
7	\$67,951	\$5,663	\$1,307
8	\$75,647	\$6,304	\$1,455
Each additional person:	\$7,696	\$642	\$148

6. **MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE?** Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
7. **I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
8. **WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.
9. **IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER?** Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start receiving SNAP TANF or FDPIR. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals during the time you are unemployed.
10. **WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to ED GERHARDT BUSINESS OFFICE, BOX 6000, GRAND FORKS, ND 58205-6000 OR CALL 746-2205, EXT. 126.
11. **MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
12. **WHOM SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children living with you.
13. **WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME?** List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes.
14. **WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME?** If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income.
15. **MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HIS/HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.

If you have other questions or need help, call **Lois Sott at 746-2436**.

Sincerely,

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2015-2016 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

New Applicant Previous Applicant

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

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	Child's Last Name	Student?		School, if applicable	Grade, if a student	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway	
		Yes	No			Foster Child	
		<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"/>		<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Click all that apply

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

Circle one: Yes / No

If you answered NO > Complete STEP 3.

If you answered YES > Write a case number here then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3)

Case Number:

Write only one case number in this space.

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

Please read **How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals** for more information. The **Sources of Income for Children** section will help you with the **Child Income** question. The **Sources of Income for Adults** section will help you with the **All Adult Household Members** section.

A. Child Income

Sometimes children in the household earn income. Please include the TOTAL income earned 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 income for each source in whole dollars 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?				Social Security/ 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="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<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

Check if no SSN

STEP 4 Signature

"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."

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Street Address (if available)	Apt #	City	State	Zip
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Printed name of adult completing the form	Signature of adult completing the form	Daytime Phone and Email (optional)		Today's date

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.

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FOR SCHOOL/OFFICE USE ONLY**Calculating Yearly Income**

If paid weekly, multiply the weekly gross income by 52.
 If paid bi-weekly, multiply the gross income by 26.
 If paid twice a month, multiply the gross income by 24.
 If paid once a month, multiply the gross income by 12.

Date Received:	Date of Approval & Notification to Family:
Determination: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Free <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced-Price <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
Reason for Denial:	
Signature of Determining Official:	
Signature of Confirming Official:	Date of Confirmation:
Date of Verification:	Did Verification Change the Determination: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

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FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION INFORMATION RELEASE

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
CHILD NUTRITION AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION

(Rev. 6/11) G/Tools/SNP/Free and Reduced Price Meal Application Information Release

It is not necessary to fill out the Information Release form in order to participate in the school nutrition programs. By signing the form, you are giving school nutrition program personnel the permission to release the information provided in your application for Free or Reduced Price Meals. The information will only be released in school related programs to determine eligibility for waiving fees or to determine if other benefits are available to your child(ren).

You have my permission to release the information contained in the School Year 2015-2016 Free and Reduced Price Meal Application for my child(ren) listed below:

Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)
Name of Child (first and last)

The information provided on the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application can be used for the programs marked below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Bus fees	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra-curricular activities	<input type="checkbox"/> School supplies
<input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring, career/college exploration (as offered by Federal TRIO programs)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		

I certify that I am the parent/legal guardian of the child(ren) listed above.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian	Date
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