

# Free and Reduced Program FAQ

## **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: either your student's school or the food service office. Applications can also be filled out online at <https://frlunch.usd383.org/>

## **Who can receive 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](#).

## **My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out another application this year?**

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 or district told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

## **I do not 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.

## **What if I disagree with the district's decision about my application?**

Please contact the Food Services Department. You may also ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Eric Reid Assistant Superintendent.

## **What if my income is not always the same?**

List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1,000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes.

## **We are military, do we need to include our housing allowance as income?**

If you receive an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income.

## **My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Does his/her combat pay count as income?**

No, if the combat pay is received in addition to the basic pay and it wasn't received before he/she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact the Food Services Department for additional information or if you have any questions.