

2024-25 Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use a pen (not a pencil). **Mail or return completed form to: Joyce Scherr, Business Manager, Zeeland Public School, P. O. Box 2, Zeeland, ND 58581**

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 to each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child's Last Name	School	Grade	Mark all that apply.	Foster Child	Migrant	Homeless or Runaway
						<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"/>

Does your child have health insurance? Many children who qualify for free or reduced-price meals may also be eligible for low-cost or free health coverage. For more information, visit <https://applyforhelp.nd.gov> or call 1-844-854-4825.

STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR? Medical assistance does not qualify through an application. If NO > Go to STEP 3. If YES > Enter SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR Case Number (between 4-9 digits, do not report EBT card number) _____ then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3.)

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

A. All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each Household Member listed, report total gross income only if they receive income. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0' or leave the fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Not sure what income to include here? Flip the page and review "Sources of Income" for information. "Sources of Income" will help you with the All Adult Household Members section and B. Child Income section.

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs					Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?			Any Other Gross Income				
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	Net income from Farm or Self-Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	SSI, Unemployment, Public Assistance, Child Support, and others on Page 2
		<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"/>	<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"/>	\$

B. 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.

Total Income Received by All Children	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 4: An Adult household member must sign the application. If Part 3 is completed, the adult signing the form must also list the last four digits of his or her social security number or mark the 'I do not have a Social Security Number box.

A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member: XXX-XX- Or ☐ I do not have a Social Security Number

B. Attestation & 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."

X SIGNATURE of Adult Completing Application (Form must be signed to be complete.) DATE

Print Name Daytime Phone

Address (if available) Apt# City Zip

SCHOOL OFFICE USE ONLY

☐ Error Prone Application

☐ Case # Application ☐ Foster Application ☐ Directly Certified: Date of Disregard: _____

☐ Income Application ☐ Homeless/Migrant/Runaway

Household Size: _____

Total Income: \$ _____ Per: ☐ Week ☐ Bi-Weekly (Every 2 Wks.) ☐ 2x Month ☐ Monthly ☐ Annual

Eligibility: Federal Free (130%) _____ Reduced (185%) _____ State 200 _____ Denied _____

Determining Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

☐ Selected For Verification: Confirming Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Verifying Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Earnings from workSocial Security<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability PaymentsSurvivor's BenefitsIncome from person outside the householdIncome from any other source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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 SecurityA 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes)Net income from self-employment (farm or business)If you are in the U.S. Military:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cash Assistance from State or local governmentSupplemental Security IncomeUnemployment benefitsWorker's compensationAlimony paymentsChild support paymentsVeteran's benefitsStrike benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social SecurityDisability benefitsRegular income from trusts or estatesAnnuitiesInvestment incomeRental incomeRegular cash payments from outside household

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 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

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.

Foster, migrant, homeless, and runaway children and children enrolled in a Head Start program are categorically eligible for free meals and free milk. If you are completing an application for these children, contact the school for more information.

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/ad-3027.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:

Mail: * U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil
Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(1) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or 202-690-7442; or

(2) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

*Only use this
address if you are
filing a complaint
of discrimination.

Income Determination: Multiple income frequencies must be converted to annual amounts and combined to determine household income. Do not convert if only one income frequency is provided by the household. If converting income to annual, round only the final number.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52 Every 2 Weeks x 26 Twice a Month x 24 Monthly x 12

Return completed form to your child's school.