

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: Stephen-Argyle Central, 500 School Ave, Stephen, MN, 56757**

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 Name | School | Grade | Birthdate | Foster Child (v) |
|---|----|-------------------|--------|-------|-----------|------------------|
| | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | |

STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR? Medical assistance **does not** qualify. If **NO** > Go to STEP 3.

If **YES** >Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR 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. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member: XXX-XX- Or Check if Adult has **No SSN:** **Total Number of All Household Members** (Children + Adults)

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"/> | | |

C. All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income only. If they do not receive income from any source, write ‘0’ or leave any 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 Child Income section and All Adult Household Members section.

| Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last) |
|---|
| 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. |
| |
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| |

| Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|--|
| Weekly | Bi-weekly | 2x Month | Monthly | Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | \$ |

| Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer? | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--|
| Monthly | Yearly | Net income from Farm or Self-Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |

| Any Other Gross Income | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 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"/> | \$ |

STEP 4: Contact information and adult 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.”

I have checked this box if I *do not* want my information shared with Minnesota Health Care Program as allowed by state law.

Printed name of adult signing form _____ Daytime Phone _____

Address (if available) _____ Apt# _____ City _____ Zip _____

SIGN HERE: Signature of Household Adult _____ Date _____

| Do Not Fill Out: For School Office Use Conversions to Annualize All Income: | X52 | X26 | X24 | X12 | X1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Verified? Attach Tracker | No change | Free After Verified | Reduced After Verified | Denied After Verified |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Weekly | Bi-weekly | 2X Month | Monthly | Annualize | | Household Size: | Categorical Eligibility | Free | Reduced |
| \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| Determining Official Signature: | | | | | | Date: | | | | |
| Confirming Official Signature: | | | | | | 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. 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 |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earnings from work Social Security <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Disability Payments Survivor’s Benefits Income from person outside the household Income 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 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 |
|---|---|--|
| <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: <ol 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 government Supplemental Security Income Unemployment benefits Worker’s compensation Alimony payments Child support payments Veteran’s benefits Strike benefits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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/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:

- (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.