

Purpose: The attached Iowa Eligibility Application is used to determine eligibility for free and reduced price meal reimbursement. The instructions for completion are on the back of this letter.

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Enrolled participants may buy lunch and supper for \$ 1.75, breakfasts for \$ 1.25, and snacks for \$ 0.75. Enrolled participants from families whose income is at or below the level shown on the chart below are eligible for either free meals, or reduced price meals that no more than cost \$.40 for lunch/supper, \$.30 for breakfast, and \$.15 for snacks.

To apply for free or reduced price meals, please fill out this application as soon as possible, sign it and return it to the center. An application, which does not contain all required information, cannot be used by the center. If required information is missing, meal benefits will be denied. Call your center if you need help with the form. The information reported on this form will be filed and treated as confidential.

A foster child, who is the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court, may be certified as eligible for free meals regardless of your household income. See instructions on the back for more information.

If you do not qualify now to receive free or reduced price meals, you may apply for benefits at any time during the year. If you have a decrease in household income, have an increase in family size, or have enrolled children that become eligible for Food Assistance or FIP, you may fill out an application at that time.

If you do not agree with the center's decision about your application, you may wish to discuss it with them. You also have a right to a fair hearing. This can be done by calling or writing the following official: _____

(List Name, Address, and Telephone of Hearing Official)

You will be notified of the approval or denial of this application.

**Income Eligibility Guidelines for Reduced Price Meals
Effective 7-1-2017 to 6-30-2018**

Household Size	Reduced Price Meals				
	Yearly	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$22,311	\$1,860	\$930	\$859	\$ 430
2	\$30,044	\$2,504	\$1,252	\$1,156	\$ 578
3	\$37,777	\$3,149	\$1,575	\$1,453	\$ 727
4	\$45,510	\$3,793	\$1,897	\$1,751	\$876
5	\$53,243	\$4,437	\$2,219	\$2,048	\$1,024
6	\$60,976	\$5,082	\$2,541	\$2,346	\$1,173
7	\$68,709	\$5,726	\$2,863	\$2,643	\$1,322
8	\$76,442	\$6,371	\$3,186	\$2,941	\$1,471
For each additional family member add:	+\$7,733	+\$645	+\$323	+\$298	+\$149

Privacy Act Statement: This explains how we will use the information you give us.

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. The last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application must be listed. The social security information is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or if you list a Food Assistance number, or Family Investment Program number, 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 CACFP. 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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Instructions for Completing Iowa Eligibility Application

Complete both sides of an application for each household.

All applicants should complete Part 1. This application may be used to apply for benefits in school meals or milk programs, child care centers and home based care for children. Check all boxes that apply to your family. You may make copies of a completed application for each program in which your child participates.

FIP OR FOOD ASSISTANCE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER, including child(ren) in Head Start or Even Start, follow these instructions.

Part 3. List one FIP or Food Assistance **Case Number** per household in the area provided. **Use the Case Number listed in the DHS Notice of Decision.** Eligibility based on Head Start or Even Start is available only if your child is enrolled in Head Start and documentation from the Head Start agency is provided. **NOTE: Medicaid, Title XIX and EBT card numbers are not acceptable.**

Part 4. List the name, date of birth, grade (if applicable), name of school/Head Start/child care center attended for each child in your household. Provide ethnic and racial information if you choose, but the school/Head Start/child care will make the determination of your child's ethnic and racial status if you do not complete this section.

Part 5. Skip this section.

Part 6. Read the certification and complete this section.

HOMELESS, MIGRANT OR RUNAWAY, follow these instructions.

Part 2. For children attending school, check if any child is Homeless, Migrant, or a Runaway and call your child's school.

Part 4. List the name, date of birth, grade (if applicable), name of school/Head Start/child care center attended for each child in your household. Provide ethnic and racial information if you choose, but the school/Head Start/child care will make the determination of your child's ethnic and racial status if you do not complete this section.

Part 5. Skip this section.

Part 6. Read the certification and complete this section.

FOSTER CHILD IN HOUSEHOLD, follow these instructions. A foster child is a child who is living with a household but who remains the legal responsibility of the welfare agency or court. Foster children can be included as household members or included on a separate application.

Part 4. List the child's name, date of birth, grade (if applicable), name of school/Head Start/child care center attended. Check the box for foster child. Provide ethnic and racial information if you choose, but the school/Head Start/child care will make the determination of your foster child's ethnic and racial status if you do not fill this section.

Part 5. Complete this section only if the foster child receives money for personal use or has other regular personal income. If the foster child has no income, check the box indicating no income. DO NOT include the stipend received by the foster family to provide care to the foster child.

Part 6. Read the certification and complete this section.

ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, including WIC households, follow these instructions for reporting income.

Part 4. List the name, date of birth, grade (if applicable), name of school/Head Start/child care center/home attended for each child in your household. Provide ethnic and racial information if you choose, but the school/Head Start/child care will make the determination of each child's ethnic and racial status if you do not complete this section.

Part 5. Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

Name: List the last and first names of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends); include yourself and all children living with you. The household decides whether to include the foster child on their household application with non-foster children. Attach another sheet of paper if needed.

Age: List the age of each household member.

Check if No Income: Put a mark in the box if the household member **does not** have an income.

Gross Income last month and how it was received: Report the amount of income received in the appropriate Gross Income column (weekly, every 2 weeks, twice monthly, or monthly). List the **gross income** each person earned from work. This is not the same as take-home pay. **Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions.** The amount should be listed on your pay stub, or your boss can tell you. If you have a household member for whom last month's income was higher or lower than usual, list that person's expected average income. If the household includes the foster child, they must report any personal income received by the foster child on the foster parent's household application.

Other Monthly Payments or Income: Money is reported in this section if it is regularly received. List the amount each person received last month from welfare, child support, alimony, adoption subsidies, pensions, retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Veteran's benefits (VA benefits). In the **All Other Income** column, include Worker's Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, cash withdrawn from savings, investments or trusts, interest and **ANY OTHER INCOME.** Use the Self-Employment Income Worksheet on the back of the application to calculate net income for self-owned businesses, farm, or rental income and report in the All Other Income column. **Do not report:** Scholarships, educational benefits, lump sum payments, combat pay, Deployment Extension Incentive Pay (DEIP) or children's incidental income from occasional activities such as babysitting, shoveling snow, or cutting grass. If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative or get combat pay do not include these allowances.

Social Security Number: If the application is being made on the basis of income, the adult signing the form must provide the last 4 digits of his or her Social Security number or mark the "I do not have a Social Security number" box. If you do not provide your Social Security information or mark the box, your application cannot be processed.

Part 6. Read the certification and complete this section.