HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, even if your children attend more than one school in Stanley Community Public School District #2. The application must be filled out completely to certify your children for free or reduced price school meals. Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact Barb Reese or Tim Holte at 701-628-3811.

PLEASE USE A PEN (NOT A PENCIL) WHEN FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION AND DO YOUR BEST TO PRINT CLEARLY.

STEP 1: LIST ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WHO ARE INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12

Tell us how many infants, children, and school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

Who should I list here? When filling out this section, please include ALL members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under AND are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a foster arrangement, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending Stanley Community Public School District regardless of age.

A) List each child's name. Print each child's name. Use one line of the application for each child. When printing names, write one letter in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper with all required information for the additional children.

B) Is the child a student at Stanley Elementary or Stanley High School? Mark 'Yes' or 'No' under the column titled "Student" to tell us which children attend Stanley Elementary or Stanley High School If you marked 'Yes,' write the grade level of the student in the 'Grade' column to the right. C) Do you have any foster children? If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. If you are ONLY applying for foster children, after finishing STEP 1, go to STEP 4.

Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to step 3.

D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway? If you believe any child listed in this section meets this description, mark the "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and complete all steps of the application.

STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SNAP, TANF, OR FDPIR?

If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).
- A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:
- Leave STEP 2 blank and go to STEP 3.

- B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:
- Write a case number for SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR. You only need to provide one case number. If you
 participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact: Social Services

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

How do I report my income?

- Use the charts titled "Sources of Income for Adults" and "Sources of Income for Children," printed on the back side of the application form to determine if your household has income to report.
 - Report all amounts in GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents. Gross income is the total income received before taxes.
 - Many people think of income as the amount they "take home" and not the total, "gross" amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has NOT been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

- Write a "0" in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will also be counted as a zero. If you write '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials suspect that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be investigated.
- Mark how often each type of income is received using the check boxes to the right of each field.

3.A. REPORT INCOME EARNED BY CHILDREN

A) Report all income earned or received by children. Report the combined gross income for ALL children listed in STEP 1 in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

What is Child Income? Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid DIRECTLY to your children. Many households do not have any child income.

3.B. REPORT INCOME EARNED BY ADULTS

Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, please include ALL adult members in your household who are living with you and share income and expenses, even if they are not related and even if they do not receive income of their own.
- Do NOT include:

E) Report income from

- o People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household. Children and students already listed above.
- B) List adult household members' names. Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Do not list any household members you listed in STEP 1. If a child listed in STEP 1 has income, follow the instructions in STEP 3, part A.

pensions/retirement/all other income.

Report all income that applies in the

"Pensions/Retirement/ All Other

Income" field on the application.

- C) Report earnings from work. Report all income from work in the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income.
- What if I am self-employed? Report income from that work as a net amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.
- F) Report total household size. Enter the total number of household members in the field "Total Household Members (Children and Adults)." This number MUST be equal to the number of household members listed in STEP 1 and STEP 3. If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free and reduced price meals.
- D) Report income from public assistance/child support/alimony. Report all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the next part.
- G) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number. An adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE

All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.

- A) Provide your contact information. Write your current address in the fields provided if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced price school meals. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.
- B) Print and sign your name and write today's date. Print the name of the adult signing the application and that person signs in the box "Signature of adult."
- C) Mail Completed Form to: Stanley Community Public School District, PO Box 10, Stanley ND 58784
- D) Share children's racial and ethnic identities (optional). On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children's race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

Frequently Asked Questions

Federal Free and Reduced Price School Meals & North Dakota's Expanded Income Eligibility Guidance

This document provides information for families with students attending a school in North Dakota offering Federal Child Nutrition Programs such as National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program, as well as information about North Dakota's Expanded Income Eligibility Guidelines for schools. It is effective July 1, 2023

Dear Family:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Stanley Community School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast is \$2.00 and lunch is \$3.85. Other programs, such as Title I, rely on area income eligibility. If your household income is below the numbers in the chart below, please complete the enclosed income application and return it to the school. To be considered for any other income-based programs the district may offer, please fill out the "Release of Information Form" as well.

 DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reducedprice meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We can only approve a complete application, so be sure to fill out all required information and sign it. Return the completed application to: Stanley Community School District, PO Box 10, Stanley ND 58784

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 reducedprice meals if your household income is within the limits on the Federal Income Chart.
- Foster children under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals. To determine if your child is eligible, please call or email Eden Cuypers or Tim Holte.
- Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal
 Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household
 income falls at or below the limits on the chart below.

For School Year 2023 -24

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Each Additional Person:
Yearly	\$26,973	\$36,482	\$45,991	\$55,500	\$65,009	\$74518	\$84,027	\$93,536	\$9,509
Monthly	\$2,248	\$3,041	\$3,833	\$4,625	\$5,418	\$6,210	\$7,003	\$7,795	\$793
2x per Month	\$1,124	\$1,521	\$1,917	\$2,313	\$2,709	\$3,105	\$3,502	\$3,898	\$397
Every 2 Weeks	\$1,038	\$1,404	\$1,769	\$2,135	\$2,501	\$2,867	\$3,232	\$3,598	\$366
Weekly	\$519	\$702	\$885	\$1,068	\$1,251	\$1,434	\$1,616	\$1,799	\$183
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Children attending schools in North Dakota may receive free meals if your household income is within the limits
of the new State Free Expanded Income Guidelines (State Free 200). Your children may qualify for no-cost
meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on the chart below:

State of North Dakota Income Chart

For School Year 2023 -24

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Each Additional Person:
Yearly	\$29,160	\$39,440	\$49,720	\$60,000	\$70,280	\$80,560	\$90,840	\$101,120	\$10,280
Monthly	\$2,430	\$3,287	\$4,143	\$5,000	\$5,857	\$6,713	\$7,570	\$8,427	\$857
2x per Month	\$1,215	\$1,643	\$2,072	\$2,500	\$2,928	\$3,357	\$3,785	\$4,213	\$428
Every 2 Weeks	\$1,122	\$1,517	\$1,912	\$2,308	\$2,703	\$3,098	\$3,494	\$3,889	\$395
Weekly	\$561	\$758	\$956	\$1,154	\$1,352	\$1,549	\$1,747	\$1,945	\$198

3. 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.

- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes, we may also ask you to send written proof of income.
- 7. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply anytime 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 SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: JAMIE RICE, SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT, PO BOX 10, STANLEY ND 58784.
- 9. 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 gualify for free or reduced-price meals.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME? If you receive an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income.
- 13. 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 701-628-3811.

Sincerely,
Barb Reese, Business Manager
Tim Holte, Superintendent

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, etc.), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET center at 92020 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 Form AD-3027, which can be obtained on-line at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-o-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, or at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (833) 256-1665 or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



2023-24 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: (School/District Information)Stanley Schools, PO Box 10 Stanley ND 58784

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.

Benefits for more information. Adults over grade	e 12 liv	ing in the s	same ho	useholo	d should	d be rep	orted in Step	3. If your childre	n atten	differ	ent districts or charter/n	onpul	blic scho	ols, re				
Child's First Name (list all children in household)	M	Child's Last Name					School		Grade	Mark all that apply.	Child		Mig		Homele s or Runawa			
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Does your child have health insurance? Many childres STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (inclu If YES >Enter SNAP, TANF STEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household N A. Child Income.	ding yo , or FD //embe	ou) curren PIR Case N ers (Skip th	tly parti lumber is step i	cipate i (betwee f you an	n one o en 4-9 o swered	or more digits, d d 'Yes' to	of the follow o not report E o STEP 2)	ving assistance p EBT card number	rogram:	SNAF	, TANF, or FDPIR? Medic	al ass the	istance	does i	not qual	ify. If N t comp	10 > Go to 5	STEP 3.
Sometimes children in the household earn	or red	ceive incon	ne, such	as fron	n a part	t-time j	ob or SSI. Ple	ase include the	Ċ									
TOTAL income received by all children lists	ed in S	TEP 1. Do n	ot inclu	de inco	me rec	eived b	y adults in the	e box to the right	. \$									
B. All Adult Household Members (including fields blank. You are certifying (promising) with the Child Income section and All Adul	that t	here is no	income	to repo ection.	rt. Not	sure w	nat income to	include here? F	lip the p	age an	d review "Sources of Inco	me"	e income for infor	a from matio	on. Sou	rces of	income w	ш пер уой
Names of All Adult Household Members (Firs	t and I	Last)		Gro	ss Earn	ings fro	m Working a	at Jobs	Ar	e you S	Self-Employed or a Farme	r?			Any Ot	her Gr	oss Income	
List all Household members not listed in STEP yourself) even if they do not receive income children who are temporarily away at school o	e. Inclu	de	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	deduction	ncome before s or taxes in ars (no cents).	Vidtada	Yearly	Net income from Farm or Self- Employment. Do no duplicate elsewhere		Weekly	Bi-weekly		Monthly	SSI, Unemp Public Ass Child Supp others on	istance, ort, and
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STEP 4: An Adult household member must	sign tl	he applicat	tion. If	Part 3 is	comp	leted, t	he adult sign	ing the form mu	st also l	st the l	last four digits of his or h	er so	cial secu	rity n	umber o	or mark	the 'I do r	ot have a
Social Security Number box. A Last Four Digits of Social Security Number	r (SSN) of Adult I	Househ	old Mer	nber: X	XX-XX		or 🗆	√ I do		e a Social Security Numb	To	otal Num	ber o	f All Hou	useholo	l Members ults) Here:	
B. Attestation & Signature: "I certify (promit I understand that this information is given in conthat school officials may verify (check) the inforpurposely give false information, my children morosecuted under applicable State and Federal	nnecti mation ay lose	on with the n. I am awa e meal ben	e receip are that	t of Fed if I	deral fu	inds and	<u>s</u>	CHOOL OFFICE Case # Applicati	on OF	oster A	pplication Directly (away	ed: Date	of Di				al
SIGNATURE of Adult Completing Application (Form must be signed to be complete.) DATE Eligibility: Federal Free (130%) Reduced (185%) State Free (200%) Denied Discomplete.							_ □Income	Too High										
Print Name					Dayti	me Pho	ne			n: Cor	ofirming Official's Signature	»:					ate:	
Mailing Address (if available)	Apt#		City			Zip				Ve	rifying Official's Signature:					Da	ate:	

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples					
Earnings from work Social Security a. Disability Payments b. Survivor's Benefits Income from person outside the household Income from any other source	 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		
 Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes) Net income from self-employment (farm or business) If you are in the U.S. Military: Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing 	 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 	Social Security Disability benefits Regular income from trusts or estates Annuities Investment income Rental income Regular 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 fu	ally 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 bot		

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;

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

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

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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 child's school