



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals. To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits following the instructions. A new application must be submitted each year.

You can apply for Free and Reduced benefits online at www.stma.k12.mn.us under Food & Nutrition.

In public schools, your application also helps the school qualify for education funds and discounts.

State funds help to pay for reduced-price school meals, so all students who are approved for either free or reduced-price school meals will receive meals at no charge. State funds also help to pay for kindergarten students, so all participating kindergarten students receive breakfast at no charge. If you don't qualify now, you may apply again anytime your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFRP or FDPIR benefits.

Return your completed Application for Educational Benefits to:

St. Michael-Albertville ISD 885
Attn: Tammy Beack
Email: tammyb@mystma.org
11343 50th Street Albertville MN 55301
Fax: 763-497-6588

Who can get free school meals? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children can get free school meals without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can get free school meals if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions.

I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children get free meals? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify for free meals. Children may be eligible for free or reduced-price school meals depending on other household financial information. Please fill out an application.

Who should I include as household members? Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends).

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for your children to qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get overtime only sometimes. For seasonal work, write the total annual income.

Will the information or case number I give be checked? It may be. We may also ask you to send written proof.

How will the information be kept? Information you provide on the form, and your child's approval for school meal benefits, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits.

If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits.

Please provide the information requested about children's racial identity and ethnicity, which helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. This information is not required for approval of school meal benefits.

If you have a question or need help filling out the application please contact Tammy Beack at 763-497-3180 ext. 5128.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ann-Marie Foucault
Superintendent of Schools