

#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

School meals will be available to students at no charge this year, regardless of household income. However, we ask that families still complete a Meal Benefit Application as this provides data for key funding for academic resources and may also connect your family to additional benefits. To apply, complete the enclosed SY 2023 Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals and return to: Kelly Ostrosky, Director of Food Service, Foxcroft Academy, 975 West Main Street, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. If you prefer, you may complete the application online at <a href="http://foxcroftacademy.schoollunchapp.com">http://foxcroftacademy.schoollunchapp.com</a>. A new application must be submitted each school year.

Our school offers healthy meals every school day. Meals meet nutrition standards established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If a child has a disability, as determined by a licensed medical authority, and the disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal, substitutions may be made as prescribed by a licensed medical authority. If a substitution is needed, there will be no extra charge for the meal. Please note, however, that the school is not required to make a substitution, unless it meets the definition of disability and supported by a complete medical statement form signed by the local medical authority.

Who can get free or reduced-price school meals? Any student enrolled in a Maine public school can get school meals at no charge!

Will information on my application be kept confidential? We will use the information on your form to decide if your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals. We may inform officials connected with other child nutrition, health and education programs of the information on your form to determine benefits for those programs or for funding and/or evaluation purposes.

How do I know if my children qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail Sue Terrill, 564-6535, sterrill@sedomocha.org.

**Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Use one Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information.

My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out a new one? Yes. A new application must be submitted each school year unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

Will the form be verified? Your eligibility may be checked at any time during the school year. School officials may ask you to send written evidence.

Can I complete the Meal Benefit Application later? Yes, but we request that the application is completed by September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 so that our offices can submit family income data and apply to receive grants and academic funding.

Should I complete the application if someone in my household is not A U.S. citizen? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you <u>normally</u> 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. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

What if some household members have no income to report? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

We are in the military. Do we report our income differently? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.

What if there isn't enough space on the application for my family? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application.

My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for? One main reason we are emphasizing the importance of the Meal Benefit Application is because it may connect you to other benefits—such as Pandemic EBT funds. For information about Food Supplement, Health Care, Cash Assistance and/or apply for Maine's Child Care Subsidy, go to My Maine Connection found online at https://www1.maine.gov/benefits/account/login.html. For low cost

health insurance information, contact Consumers for Affordable Health Care (CAHC) at 1-800-965-7476.

If you have other questions or need help, call 564-8351.

Sincerely

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, audiotage, American Sign Language), should contact the

	Income Guidelines I Price Meals
RED	UCED
INCOME G	UIDELINES
Household Size	Monthly
1	2,096
2	2.823
3	3.551
4	4.279
	5.006
6	5,734
7	6.462
8	7.189
For each additional family member add:	728

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. UNDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/sics/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf">https://www.usda.gov/sics/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</a>. 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 à usda gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Maine Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination because of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, religion, ancestry or national origin.

Complaints of discrimination must be filed at the office of the Maine Human Rights Commission, 51 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0051. If you wish to file a discrimination complaint electronically, visit the Human Rights Commission website at <a href="https://www.manue.gov/nthre-file/instructions">https://www.manue.gov/nthre-file/instructions</a> and complete an intake questionnaire. Maine is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

(Federal Statement Revised 5/2022)

## HOW TO COMPLETE THE SY 2023 FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEAL HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION

#### STEP 1: STUDENT INFORMATION: List all students living in the household

- (a) List all students living in the household
- (b) Include the name of the school they attend (if known)
- (c) If the student is a Foster, Homeless or Migrant child, check the applicable box.
- (d) Foster, migrant, homeless, and runaway children, and children enrolled in a Head Start program are categorically eligible for free meals. If you are completing an application for these children, contact the school for more information.
- (e) If the student is a Foster child, their foster parent or other official representing the child must sign the form in step 4. You do not have to list a social security number.
- (f) Foster children should be included as a household member. This may help other household members qualify for benefits.

#### **STEP 2: ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:**

- (a) If any member of the household currently participates in SNAP, TANF or FDPIR, provide the case number and name of the person receiving these benefits. Skip step 3. An adult household member must sign the form in Step 4 but does not have to list a social security number.
- (b) If no one in the household participated in SNAP, TANF or FDPIR, proceed to step 3.

## **STEP 3: HOUSEHOLD INCOME:** List all Household Members including yourself & students listed in step 1. List gross income for each person.

- (a) Write the names of <u>each</u> person living in your household. A household is a person(s) living together that shares income and expenses, even if not related.
- (b) Write the amount of gross income each person receives before taxes and other deductions. Each income amount should be entered in the appropriate column.
- (c) Check the box for how often each income is received.
- (d) If self-employed, write the amount of income the person earns from self-employment; for example, income from being a family day care home provider, or operating a farm. Please call the school if you need help.
- (e) Any income field left blank is a positive indication there is no income to report.
- (f) Report total household size. This number must equal the number of household members listed in section 3.

## STEP 4: Required - ADULT SIGNATURE AND LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER The form must have the signature of an adult household member.

(a) The adult household member who signs must include the last four digits of his/her social security number. If he/she does not have a social security number, check the appropriate box. A social security number is not needed if you listed a SNAP or TANF case number or if you are applying for a foster child.

# STEP 5: Optional - CHILDREN'S ETHNIC and RACIAL IDENTITIES: You are not required to answer this question, but completion of this information will help ensure everyone is treated fairly.

INCOME TO DEPODT

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony Received	Pensions/Retirement/Social Security & Other Income				
-Salary, wages, cash bonuses -Net income from self-employment (farm or business)  If you are in the military: -Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	-Unemployment benefits -Worker's compensation -Social Security Income (SSI) -Cash assistance from State or local government -Alimony payments -Child support payments -Veteran's benefits -Strike benefits	-Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits -Private pensions or disability benefits -Regular income from trusts or estates -Annuities-Investment income -Earned interest -Rental income -Regular cash payments from outside household				

### SY 2023 HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Complete one application per household for all children. A household is a person(s) living together that shares income and expenses, even if not related. You may also apply online at: http://foxcroftacademy.schoollunchapp.com

STEP 1: STUDENT INFOR	MATION: List a	all st	<u>ud</u> er	ıts tl	nat l	ive in the house	<u>ho</u> lo	1							
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Student Last Name	Studer	ıt Fir	st N	ame			S	choo	l		Foster Child	····//~			
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STEP 2: ASSISTANCE PROFIDER assistance? If NO, go to	OGRAMS: Do as	ny m	emb	ers o	f the	household (incluer and name of the	ıding	g you erson	ı) cui rece	rrent	ly participate ing these benefits	SN/	AP, T	`ANI	F or lete
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SNAP or TANF Number Letter STEP 3: HOUSEHOLD INCOME: List all Household Members including yourself & students listed above and gross							er								
income for each person listed.  Names					G	ross Income (be	fore	ded	uctio	ons)					$\neg$
Household Member (include students listed above)	Earnings from Work before deductions	Weekly	Every 2 weeks	2 times/month	Monthly	Welfare, Child Support, Alimony received	Weekly	Every 2 weeks	2 times/month	Monthly	Pensions, Retirement, Social Security & All Other Income	Weekly	Every 2 weeks	2 times/month	Monthly
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TOTAL HOUSEHOLD SIZE:															
STEP 4: ADULT SIGNATURE  I certify (promise) that all information on Federal funds, and that school officials in may be prosecuted under applicable State  Signature of Adult:  Printed Name:  Address:  Annual In Total Income:	this application is true tay verify (check) the in and Federal laws.  * come Conversion: Very thing to the conversion of	FOI	La La R SC Y x 5:	incor am a est 4 Pho CHC 2, Ev	Dig ne:_ DOI ery 2	reported. I understanthat if I purposely gits of Social Secular Securar Secular Secula	thative fail	Nui Em: Date	mbei ail: _ x 24.	Mor	is given in connect ny children may los L nthly x 12 y eligible free:	do no	t beneat	fits, a	ocial ober
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☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Asia ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino ☐ Whit			·		<ul> <li>□ American Indian or Alaska Native</li> <li>□ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</li> <li>□ Other</li> </ul>				
	***	NOTIFICA	ATION OF ELIC	GIBILITY	<del></del>				
DATE:									
Dear Par	rent/Guardian:								
	plication for free or reduced price meals for your Approved for applicable programs listed belong Free Lunches  Free Breakfasts  Free After School Snacks  Denied because: Household income is over the amount allowed the program of t	low (check al	l that apply)  ☐ Reduced price ☐ Reduced price ☐ Reduced price ☐ The application	breakfast at After School	\$per meal of Snacks at \$per snack				
in accord	nnce with federal civil rights law and U.S. Denartm	ent of Avriculty	ire (USDA) cival right	Sincerely	and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating				
on the bas informatic (e.g., Brai Center at should co https://ww 632-9992 discrimina	sis of race, color, national origin, sex (including genon may be made available in languages other than Eille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA mplete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discriming www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-O, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The lette	der identity and nglish. Person e), should conta through the Fer nation Complan ASCR*520P-C er must contain	d sexual orientation), d s with disabilities who act the responsible Stat deral Relay Service at out Form which can be complaint-Form-0508-the complainant's nan	isability, age, require alterne e or local Age (800) 877-833 obtained only 1002-508-11- ine, address, te	or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program native means of communication to obtain program information ency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET 39. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant				

(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 a usda gov

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(Federal Statement Revised 5/2022)



#### OPTIONAL SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

Dear Parent/Guardian:							
Application may be shared with other progra	n you gave on your Free and Reduced Price School Meals ams for which your children may qualify. For the following to share your information. Sending in this form will not reduced price meals.						
No! I <b>DO NOT</b> want information from with any of these programs.	my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application shared						
If you checked no, stop here. You do not will not be shared.	have to complete or send in this form. Your information						
Yes! I <b>DO</b> want school officials to shar Application with <b>school administrative</b> required fees.	e information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals offices to qualify for fee waivers and/or reduced prices on						
For iPad insurance (You will still need to fill out the iPad insurance waiver application form if you would like to request help with the iPad insurance.)							
For Counseling Services for fee waivers for testing and college applications, and programs such as Upward Bound and Early College for ME							
☐ To participate in JMG program							
If you checked yes to any or all of the box shared only with the programs you check	es above, fill out the form below. Your information will be ed.						
Child's Name:	School:						
Child's Name:	School:						
ild's Name:School:							
ild's Name:School:							
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	Date:						
Printed Name:							
Address:							

For more information, you may call Kelly Ostrosky at 564-8351.

Return this form to: Foxcroft Academy Main Office

VISIT

CONTACT

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