

Language Assistance Services

ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services are available to you free of charge. **Contact your child's school for assistance.**

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla un idioma que no sea el inglés, hay servicios de asistencia lingüística disponibles gratis. **Contacte la escuela de su hijo para asistencia.**

Portuguese: ATENÇÃO: Se fala um idioma diferente do Inglês, os serviços de assistência linguística estão disponíveis gratuitamente para si. **Entre em contato com a escola do seu filho para obter assistência.**

Russian: ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы не говорите на английском языке, для вас доступны бесплатные языковые сервисы на вашем языке. **Обратитесь за помощью в школу, в которой учится ваш ребенок.**

Haitian Creole: ATANSYON: Si ou pale yon lòt lang ke lang Anglè, sèvis asistans lang yo disponib pou ou gratis. **Kontakte lekòl timoun ou an pou kapab jwenn asistans.**

Cape Verdean: ATENSON: Si bu ta fala un língua diferente di Ingles, servísus di apoiu linguístiku stá disponível sen kustus. **Kontakta skóla di bu fidju pa dá-bu apoiu.**

Arabic: انتباه: إن كنتم تتحدثون بلغة أخرى غير الإنجليزية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية متوفرة بشكل مجاني. **تواصلوا مع مدرسة طفلكم من أجل طلب المساعدة.**

Chinese: 请注意: 如果您的母语不是英语, 我们将免费提供您语言辅助服务。如需协助, 请与您孩子的学校联系。

Vietnamese: CHÚ Ý: Nếu Quý vị nói một ngôn ngữ khác ngoài Tiếng Anh, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho Quý vị. **Vui lòng liên hệ với trường của con Quý vị để nhận được sự hỗ trợ.**

Korean: 주의: 영어 외 타국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 제공받을 수 있습니다. 지원 문의는 자녀의 학교로 연락해 주시기 바랍니다.

Japanese: 注意: 英語以外の言語でお話されたい場合は、言語支援サービスを無料でご利用になれます。お子様の学校にサポートのご相談ください。

Ukrainian: УВАГА: Якщо ви володієте іншою мовою, крім англійської, послуги мовної допомоги доступні для вас безкоштовно. **Зверніться по допомогу до школи вашої дитини.**

Pashto: خبرداري: كهتاسو دانگرېزي نه سيوا بلهيو هژبهوايه، نو ستاسو لهپاره دې په پاره همدادوكوونكي خدماتتغير لهپيسو موجوددي دامدادلهپاره هد خپل ماشوم د سکول سره اړيکهاونيس و.

Azerbaijani: DİQQƏT: Əgər ingilis dilindən başqa bir dildə danışırınsızsa, dil yardımı xidmətləri sizə pulsuz təqdim olunur. **Yardım üçün uşağınızın məktəbi ilə əlaqə saxlayın.**

Turkish: DİKKAT: İngilizceden farklı bir dil konuşuyorsanız dil yardımı hizmetini ücretsiz kullanabilirsiniz. **Yardım için çocuğunuzun okuluyla iletişime geçiniz.**

French: ATTENTION : Si vous parlez une langue différente que l'anglais, il y a des services d'assistance qui existent gratuitement. **Appelez l'école de votre enfant.**

Albanian: VËMENDJE: Nëse flisni një gjuhë tjetër dhe jo anglisht, për ju ka shërbime falas për ndihmë me gjuhën. **Kontakttoni shkollën e fëmijës suaj për ndihmë.**

Preschool 781-455-0416 x55140 daniel_cohen@needham.k12.ma.us

Newman Elementary 781-455-0416 x55392 susan_eyler@needham.k12.ma.us

Mitchell Elementary 781-455-0466 x54100 heidi_meagher@needham.k12.ma.us

Sunita Williams 781-455-0461 x53247 erin_vacaro@needham.k12.ma.us

Eliot Elementary 781-455-0452 x52000 liv_nash@needham.k12.ma.us

Broadmeadow Elementary 781-455-0448 x51306 roberta_redpath@needham.k12.ma.us

High Rock Middle 781-455-0455 x44401 Julie_Pickard@needham.k12.ma.us

Pollard Middle 781-455-0480 x33003 linda_riley@needham.k12.ma.us

High School 781-455-0800 x22005 linda_watson@needham.k12.ma.us



I Speak Statements

<input type="checkbox"/> Unë flas shqip (Albanian)	<input type="checkbox"/> N' a po Klào Win. (Kru)
<input type="checkbox"/> አማርኛ እናገራለሁ (Amharic)	<input type="checkbox"/> ຂ້າພະເຈົ້າເວົ້າ ພາສາລາວ. (Lao)
<input type="checkbox"/> انا اتكلم اللغة العربية. (Arabic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yie gonggv Mienh waac. (Mien)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ես խոսում եմ հայերեն (Armenian)	<input type="checkbox"/> म नेपाली बोल्छु (Nepali)
<input type="checkbox"/> আমি বাংলা ভাষী। (Bengali)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mówię po polsku . (Polish)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ja govorim bosanski jezik (Bosnian)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eu falo Português . (Portuguese)
<input type="checkbox"/> ကျွန်တော်ပြန်ဟောတာပြောသည်။ (Burmese)	<input type="checkbox"/> ਦਿ ਸ੍ਰਮਾਅਕ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)
<input type="checkbox"/> 我说中文 (Chinese Simplified)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cunosc limba Română . (Romanian)
<input type="checkbox"/> 我說中文 (Chinese Traditional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Я говорю по-русски . (Russian)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ja govorim hrvatski . (Croatian)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ou te tautala faaSamoa . (Samoaan)
<input type="checkbox"/> اینجانب به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنم (Farsi)	<input type="checkbox"/> Govorim srpski . (Serbian)
<input type="checkbox"/> Je parle français . (French)	<input type="checkbox"/> Waxaan ku hadlaa Somali . (Somali)
<input type="checkbox"/> Je parle le Français haïtien (French Creole)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yo hablo español . (Spanish)
<input type="checkbox"/> Μιλάω ελληνικά . (Greek)	<input type="checkbox"/> أتحدث السودانية (لغوي سوداني) (Sudanese)
<input type="checkbox"/> કું ગુજરાતી બોલુ છું (Gujarati)	<input type="checkbox"/> Marunong po akong magsalita ng Tagalog . (Tagalog)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mwen pale Kreyòl . (Haitian Creole)	<input type="checkbox"/> ข้าพเจ้าพูด ภาษาไทย (Thai)
<input type="checkbox"/> म हिंदी बोलता हूँ (Hindi)	<input type="checkbox"/> አነ ትግርኛ ይዳረገለኝ (Tigrinya)
<input type="checkbox"/> Kuv hais lus hmoob . (Hmong)	<input type="checkbox"/> Я розмовляю українською . (Ukrainian)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ana m a sụ Igbo (Igbo)	<input type="checkbox"/> میں اردو بولتا/ بولتی ہوں - (Urdu)
<input type="checkbox"/> Parlo Italiano (Italian)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tôi nói tiếng Việt . (Vietnamese)
<input type="checkbox"/> 私は 日本語 を話します (Japanese)	<input type="checkbox"/> איך ידיש רעד אײך (Yiddish)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mi chat Jamiekan langwjjj (Jamaican Creole)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mo gbọ Yoruba (Yoruba)
<input type="checkbox"/> ykt tkqhlil b (Karen)	
<input type="checkbox"/> ខ្ញុំនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 본인의 모국어는 한국어 입니다 (Korean)	
<input type="checkbox"/> نه ز زماني كوردی ده ناخفم. (Kurdish)	

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Student Name: _____
School: _____

Grade: _____



Nutrition Services Department

28 Glen Gary Road

Needham, MA 02494

Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services

Phone: 781-455-0400 x11216

Email: emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Needham Public Schools** offers healthy meals every school day. **In School Year 2023-2024, all students will receive free breakfast and lunch at school.** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has provided money to do this for another year through the State budget. We need your help to keep providing free meals to all students in future years. Please fill out this application for free and reduced price school meals. If many families fill out and return this form, we will receive more money from the federal government for free school meals now and in the future. We will also get more money for other school programs. Filling out this form also helps our community provide free summer meals to all kids, and free meals to kids in childcare. The information you provide is confidential. We follow strict federal rules to keep your information private.

If you are not receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and have been approved for free or reduced-price school meals, you may be eligible for SNAP which provides monthly financial assistance to purchase groceries to Massachusetts residents who qualify. Find out if you are eligible for SNAP today by calling **Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333** and a counselor can help you apply over the phone. You can also apply on your own online at DTA Connect: <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/apply>

Frequently Asked Questions

DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?

No. Use one *Free and Reduced Price School Meals 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. Return the completed application to: **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us.**

SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS?

No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us** immediately.

MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW 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.

MAY I APPLY 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.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

This year, all students in our schools will get free breakfast and lunch at school. But only some students qualify as "eligible" for free meals. These are:

- All children in households receiving benefits from **MA SNAP, MA TAFDC, FDPIR, or specific categories of Medicaid** are eligible for free meals.
- **Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.**
- **Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.**
- Children who meet the definition of **homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.**
- 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 this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2023 - 2024

Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$26,973	\$2,248	\$519
2	36,482	3,041	702
3	45,991	3,833	885
4	55,500	4,625	1,068
5	65,009	5,418	1,251
6	74,518	6,210	1,434
7	84,027	7,003	1,616
8	93,536	7,795	1,799
Each additional person:	+ 9,509	+ 793	+183

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 **Mary Lammi, Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services, at 781-455-0400 x11213, or email mary_lammi@needham.k12.ma.us.**

I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?

Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in a completed application.

CAN I APPLY ONLINE?

Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit <https://needham.familyportal.cloud/> to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us if you have any questions about the online application.**

WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?

Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.

IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER?

Yes. you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

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: **Anne Gulati, Assistant Superintendent for Financial and Operations, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11206 or email at: anne_gulati@needham.k12.ma.us.**

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. 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, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, 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. Contact **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us** to receive a second application.

MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?

To find out how to apply for **MA SNAP** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call the **MA DTA Assistance Line at 1-877-382-2363 (press 7 to apply for SNAP)**.

If you have other questions or need help, call **781-455-0400 x11216**.

Sincerely,



Emily Murphy
Director of Nutrition Services

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 submit all needed information, 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 primary wage earner or other adult household member who signs the application. 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.

Non-Discrimination 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, audiotope, 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/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.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.

How To Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free and reduced price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, **even if your children attend more than one school in the**

The application must be filled out completely to determine the eligibility of your child(ren) 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

Please use a pen (not a pencil) when filling out the application and do your best to print clearly.

Step 1: List ALL children, infants, and students up to and including grade 12

Tell us how many infants/toddlers, children not in school, and elementary/middle/high 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 formal foster arrangement through a court or state/local agency, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending (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 (or a second application if completing electronically) with all required information for the additional children. This also applies to adults in Step 3. "MI" is short for middle initial. Print the first letter of each child's middle name in the box.

B) Is the child a student? If "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. Note: Adopted children are not considered foster children. A foster child is a minor child who has been taken into state custody and placed with a state-licensed adult, who cares for the child in place of their parent or guardian.

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. Homeless, Migrant, Runaway status must be confirmed with the appropriate program staff. If the school district cannot confirm your student's homeless, migrant, or runaway status, then the school district will contact you to complete an income-based application. You may choose to provide income information now in order to prevent the school district from potentially needing to contact you later.

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) or
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or
- The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:

- Check “No” in **Step 2** 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:
 - Go to **Step 4**.

Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

How do I report my income?

- Use the lists titled “**Sources of Income**” & “**Examples of Income for Children**,” 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 and deductions.
 - 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.
- 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 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:**
 - People who live with you but are not supported by your household’s income AND do not contribute income to your household.
 - Infants, children and students already listed in **Step 1**.

Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

1) List adult household members' names.

Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Include college students, unless they are declared independently on taxes (all college students are considered adults). Do not list any household members you listed in Step 1.

2) List earnings from work.

List 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. Net income is your income after taxes and deductions have been subtracted.

- **What if I have multiple jobs?** List each job separately by entering your name and income from each job on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.
- **What if I am self-employed?** List income from your business as a net amount. This net amount is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts (revenue). Gross receipts or revenue are all the income earned from the sale of any products or services offered.

If a child listed in **Step 1** has income, follow the instructions in **Step 3, Part B.**

3) List income from public assistance/child support/alimony.

List 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.

4) List income from pensions/retirement/all other income.

List all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income" field on the application.

- **What if I receive income from multiple sources in this category?** List each source separately by entering your name and income from each source on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.

5) List 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.

6) 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 Social Security Number."

3.B List income earned by children

List all income earned or received by children.

List 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.

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 statements on the back of the application.

A) Provide your contact information. Write your current mailing address in the fields provided, if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, that is okay. 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 application to:

Optional

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. This information is requested solely for the purpose of determining the State's compliance with Federal civil rights laws, and your response will not affect consideration of your application, and may be protected by the Privacy Act. By providing this information, you will assist us in assuring that this program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Please return the application directly to your child's SCHOOL. DO NOT mail, fax, or email completed applications or questions about applications to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights or your child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals will be delayed.

SOURCES AND EXAMPLES OF INCOME

For additional information on income, please refer to the instructions that accompany this application.

Sources of Income		Examples of Income for Children
Earnings from Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary, wages, cash bonuses, tips, commissions Net income from self-employment (farm or business) 	Public Assistance/Alimony/Child Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment benefits Workers' compensation Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Cash assistance from State or local government Alimony payments Child support payments Veterans benefits Strike benefits 	<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 benefits 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
If you are in the U.S. Military: <ul 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 	All other sources of income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Security/Disability (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) Private Pensions or disability benefits Income from trusts or estates Annuities Investment income Earned interest Rental income Regular cash payments from outside household 	

OPTIONAL Children's ethnic and racial identities. This information is kept confidential and may be protected by the Privacy Act of 1974.

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 for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race) Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax, or email completed applications to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

DO NOT FILL OUT For school use only.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice a Month x 24, Monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.

Total Income How often? Weekly Every 2 Weeks 2 Months Monthly Annual

Household size Categorical Eligibility Eligibility Free Reduced Denied

Determining Official's Signature Date Confirming Official's Signature Date Verifying Official's Signature Date

Use of Information Statement

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met.

The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination

Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, Check if no Social Security Number. Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security number. Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.

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

FAX: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
EMAIL: program.intake@usda.gov

*Do not mail applications to this address, only complaints of discrimination.

Return completed form to your child's school.

Sharing Information with Medicaid/CHIP

Dear Parent/Guardian:

If your children are qualified for free or reduced price school meals, they may also be able to get free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Children with health insurance are more likely to get regular health care and are less likely to miss school because of sickness.

Because health insurance is so important to children's well-being, *the law allows us to tell Medicaid and CHIP that your children are eligible for free or reduced price meals, unless you tell us not to.* Medicaid and CHIP only use the information to identify children who may be eligible for their programs. Program officials may contact you to offer to enroll your children. Filling out the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application does not automatically enroll your children in health insurance.

If you do not want us to share your information with Medicaid or CHIP, fill out the form below and send in.

(Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals).

- No! I DO NOT** want information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application shared with Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

If you checked no, fill out the form below to ensure that your information is NOT shared for the child(ren) listed below:

Child's Name: School:

Child's Name: School:

Child's Name: School:

Child's Name: School:

Signature of Parent/Guardian: Date:

Printed Name:

Address:

For more information, you may call **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily.murphy@needham.k12.ma.us**
Return this form to: **28 Glen Gar Road, Needham MA 02494** by [date].

Sharing Information with Other Programs

Dear Parent/Guardian:

If you qualify for Free & Reduced Meals, you may also qualify for other benefits in the Needham Public Schools, including scholarships, fee waivers or fee reductions to student programs and extracurricular activities.

The information reported on this application may be shared with other programs for which your child(ren) may qualify. For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Completing this form will not change whether your child(ren) gets free or reduced-price meals.

The School Department will not issue eligibility-based scholarships, fee waivers or fee reductions to your child(ren) UNLESS you check yes to the applicable sharing sections, and sign and date below. Parents who opt NOT to share their free and reduced-price meals eligibility information can still request other forms of financial assistance by contacting their School Principal, or by completing the annual demographic information update form in PowerSchool

- Yes! I **DO** want Nutrition Services to share information from my free and reduced price school meal application with teachers, administrators and staff members for the purpose of receiving scholarships, fee waivers or fee reductions to the following student programs and extracurricular activities: **Pupil Transportation** (to and from school); **Middle School and High School Sports**; **Summer Sports Clinics**; **Book/Equipment Sales** (Calculators, Yearbooks; Student Planners, Recorders, BSO/Opera Tickets, World Language Exam Fees, Lost Books, Locks for Student Lockers); **High School Parking** fees; **High School AP/PSAT Testing** fees; **School Performing Groups** (including Pollard Jazz Band & Treble Choir, Elementary Honors Band, Elementary Strings, Elementary Choir, Town Orchestra, Pollard Middle School, Honors Wind Ensemble); **Elementary Instrumental Group Lesson** fees; **Middle School and High School Theatrical Production** fees; **Needham Community Education (NCE) Programs** (NCE Elementary After-School, NCE Middle After-School, Summer School, Adult Education, Private Music Instruction); **School Field Trips**; **Student Activities** (Prom, etc.); and **Other School Programs** if there is a benefit to me.
- No! I **DO NOT** want my information from my free and reduced-price school meal application shared with any of the aforementioned programs or individuals.

If you checked yes to the box above, fill out the form below to ensure that your information is shared for the child(ren) listed below. Your information will be shared only with the programs you checked.

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

For more information, you may call **Emily Murphy, Director of Nutrition Services, Needham Public Schools, 28 Glen Gary Rd. Needham, MA 02494, 781-455-0400 x11216, emily_murphy@needham.k12.ma.us**

Return this form to: **28 Glen Gary Road, Needham MA 02494** by [date].