

Food Service Online Application Entry in Family Access

Contact NWRDC Student Support: Hours: 7:30 – 4:30

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Documentation Key

Path: A sequence of clicks to access a specific area of

Skyward

Note: Information provided to clarify a process or provide

additional details

Important message regarding functionality

Back: A boxed word indicates a button in Skyward

Hyperlink: An underlined link to a new screen or process

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Adding Online Meal Applications

You can add an application for free or reduced meals through the Applications hyperlink found in Family Access. When you submit an application for free or reduced meals, the information you provide is confidential and is only seen by the Food Service department. Access to the Applications tab may vary by the school that your child attends, however you only need to fill out one application that includes all members of your family.

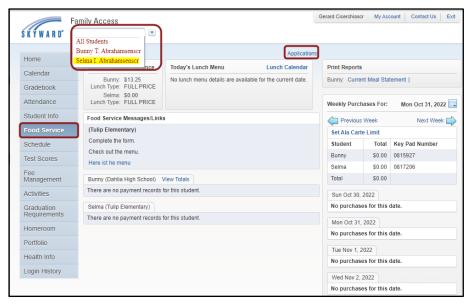
This document walks you through the steps that are necessary to complete the Online Meal Application in Family Access. Once you have started the process, you will find additional information in the Letter to Households that will identify who you can contact in your district if you have any questions.

Begin Adding an Application

When you begin adding an application for free and reduced meals, additional instructions are listed at the top of each page. You can quickly jump to a specific page by using the links in the column on the left side of the screen. However, we strongly recommend using the procedures below and the Next button at the top of each page to be sure you are completing all required steps.

To begin adding an Online Meal Application in Family Access:

- 1. Click on **Food Service** from the Family Access General Information tree on the left side of the screen.
- If there are multiple students in your family, change from All Students in drop down in the top left of the screen and select an individual student to access the application.
- 3. Click on **Applications** to the right of the screen.



4. And then click on Add Application.



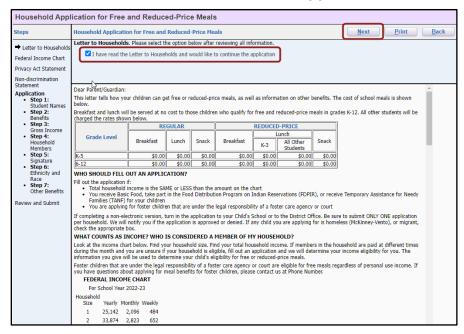
Accepting the Letter to Households

The Letter to Households provides you with the basic information about how your child or children can qualify for free or reduced meals. Included in the letter is information on the cost of regular and reduced-priced meals, a Federal Income Chart that gives you qualification guidelines of income levels based on household size, some helpful information on application requirements, and district contact information if you have questions.

NOTE: You must acknowledge that you have read the Letter to Households before you can continue in the application process.

To accept the Letter to Households:

1. Review the Letter to Households and check the box I have read the Letter to Households and would like to continue the application.

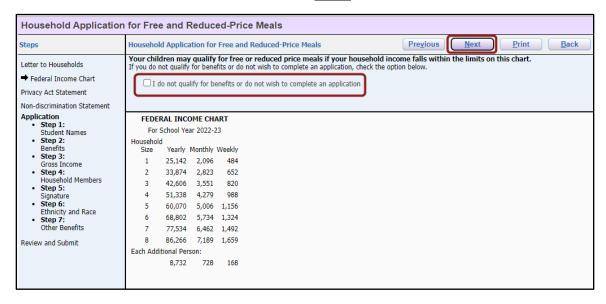


2. Click Next.

Reviewing the Federal Income Chart

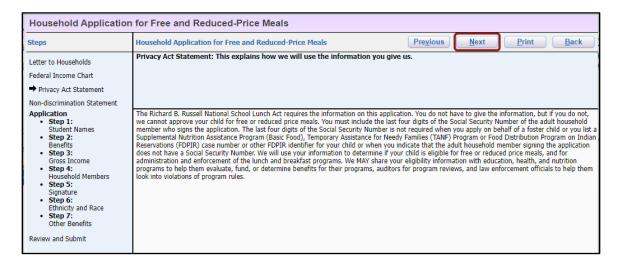
The Federal Income Chart, which is updated yearly, helps you determine whether your child qualifies for free or reduced-price meals based on your household income and size. This chart is for review.

- 1. After reviewing the chart if you find your household will not qualify for benefits, check the box provided and click **Next**. OR
- If you believe you will qualify, just click Next.



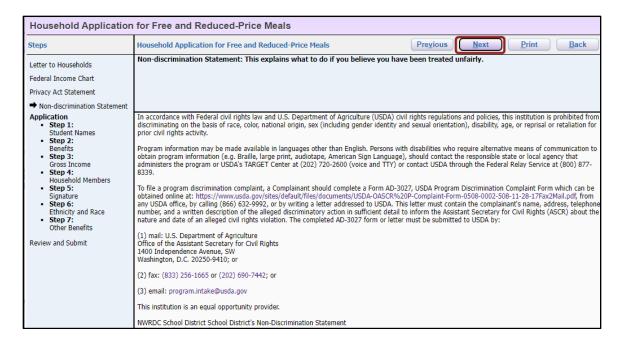
Reviewing the Privacy Act

The Privacy Act Statement explains how the district will use the information provide in your household application. This statement is for your review. Click **Next**.



Non-Discrimination Statement

The Non-Discrimination Statement explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. This statement is for your review. Click **Next**.



Filling out the Household Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Each of the following sections of the application requires you to enter your personal information regarding household members and income. The district only needs one application per household so information entered should reflect all members of your household. For more help, see the instructions that appear at the top of each page.

Step 1: Student Names

Step 1: Student Names - Enter the names of all students living with you that attend school.

Directions to fill out this section:

- If your child received free or reduced meals during the last school year, select the check box next to Check here if you received meal benefits last year.
- If any children you are applying for qualify as homeless, migrant, or foster check the appropriate box. Children in these categories automatically qualify for free meals, but you must continue filling out the application.

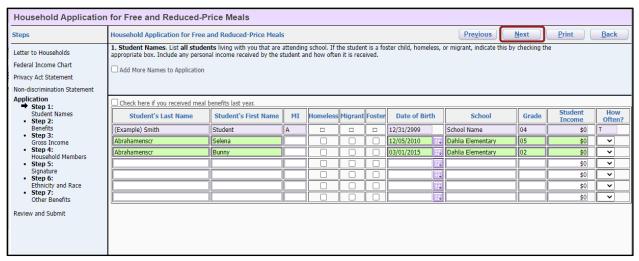
NOTE: Information entered on the Household Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals is not shared with other departments in the district, and the school also needs this information for program assistance.

3. Enter information in **Student's Last Name**, **Student's First Name**, **Date of Birth**, **School**, **and Grade** boxes for each student in your household.

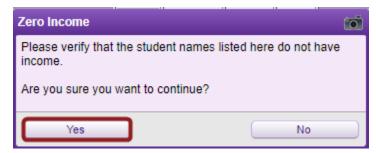
NOTE: Use the student's legal name. This helps the Food Service Administrator when matching names to Food Service Customers in the district.

NOTE: Select the check box **Add More Names to Application** (at the top of the screen) if you need to enter more than five student names. This adds additional record lines to the application.

- 4. If any child you are applying for is a Foster child, Homeless (McKinney Vento) or Migrant, check the appropriate box.
- 5. Enter any Student Income.



- 6. Click Next.
- 7. A Zero Income window will display, verify that the information is correct and select **Yes** to continue.



Step 2: Benefits

Step 2: Benefit - If any Household Members (including yourself) currently participate in Basic Food, TANF or FDPIR, check the box next to the appropriate program and enter your case number. And then click **Next**.

If you do not participate in one of the programs, simply click Next.



Step 3: Gross Income

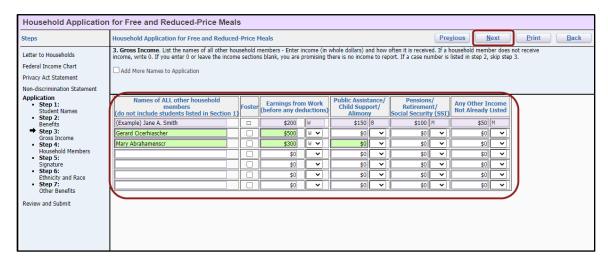
Step 3: Gross Income - List the names of all other household members and any income they contribute.

NOTE: If you provided a case number for any household member (other than Foster) in Step 2, you are not required to fill out this section. Click **Next** and go to Step 4.

 Enter information in the Names of ALL other household members (do not include students), Foster Child checkbox, Earnings from Work (before Deductions), Child Support, Alimony, Pensions, Retirement, Social Security (SSI), Any Other Income Not Already Listed for all adults and children <u>not in school</u> that live in your household.

NOTE: Click the drop-down arrow next to any income box to select the frequency of the income. For a description of the frequency codes, double-click in the box.

NOTE: Check the box **Add More Names to Application** (at the top of the screen) if you need to enter more than six household members. This adds additional record lines to the application.



2. Click Next

Step 4: Total Household Members

Step 4 - You must enter the total number of members living in your household.

- In the **Total Household Members** box, enter the number of people living in your household. This number should include students, nonstudents and all adults.
- 2. Enter the last four digits of the social security number (SSN) of the primary wage earner or check the box if no SSN.



3. Click Next

Step 5: Signature

Step 5 - Certify the information you have using an electronic signature and entering the requested information. An electronic signature is used in this section so the application can be submitted online.

- 1. Enter the name of the Adult household member filling out the application
- 2. Click on <u>Click to Sign</u> under the Adult Household Member Signature. This will take you to the Electronic Signature Agreement. Read and click <u>I Agree</u>.
- 3. Enter address, telephone, and email information (this information is optional).

Note: Printed Name is the only required field on this page.



4. Click Next

Step 6: Ethnicity and Race

Step 6 - Important information is asked regarding ethnicity and race to help make sure the district is fully serving the community. Answering is optional and does not affect eligibility.

- 1. If you would like to skip this section, click **Next**, otherwise check the box next to I would like to report this optional information.
- 2. Mark one or more racial identities
- 3. Mark one ethnic identity.
- 4. Click Next



Section 7: Other Benefits

Section 7 - Other Benefits allows you to share your free or reduced meal status with other programs within the school or district. Sharing this information may qualify the student for a reduction in fees. Other Benefits is optional. If you choose to share your meal status you will need to fulfill separate signature requirements.

- 1. Check the box next to the program(s) you wish to share the information with for a possible reduction in fees.
- 2. Select the <u>Click to Sign</u> link. This enters the text <Signed Electronically> in the Signature of Parent/Guardian box and the current date in the Date box. Accept the Electronic Signature Agreement to continue.
- 3. In the **Printed Name** box, enter your name.



4. Click Next

Reviewing and Submitting your Online Application

In the final step of completing your Household Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals, you review the information you entered on the application and submit it for the district Food Services Department to review.

On the Review and Submit page, you will see an option to **Submit Application**. If errors are detected, you will see instructions to review the completed application and fix any indicated errors, along with a message indicating where the error is and what needs fixed before the application can be submitted for approval.

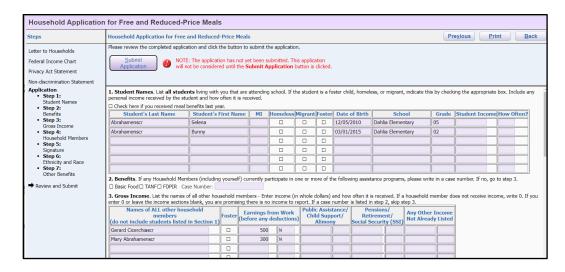


To Review and Submit the Online Application

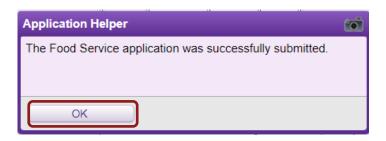
1. Review the Household Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals for complete and accurate information.

NOTE If you need to make additions or corrections to the application you can jump directly to the page you need by selecting the option from the **Sections** tree on the left-hand side of the screen.

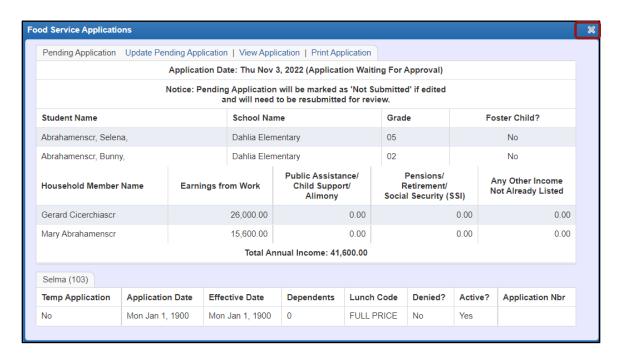
- 2. Click **Print** to save a hard copy of the application you are about to submit.
- 3. Click Submit Application.



4. Once you have selected Submit Application, the application is sent electronically to the Food Services department, and you will receive a confirmation that it was successfully submitted.



5. Click OK and you will be returned to the Food Service Applications window in Family Access. Use the X to close the Food Service Applications window and return to the main screen.

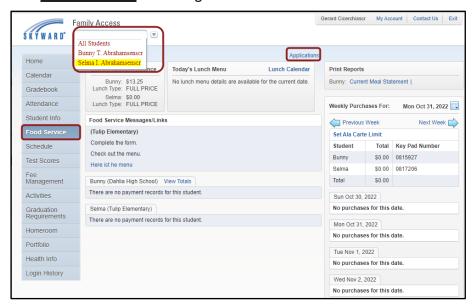


Viewing and Printing Pending Applications

After submitting a Household Application for Free and Reduced Price-Meals, you can view a summarization of your Pending Application Information on the Food Services Submit a Food Service Application link. The access you have to view the entire pending application and print applications is dependent on your child's school settings.

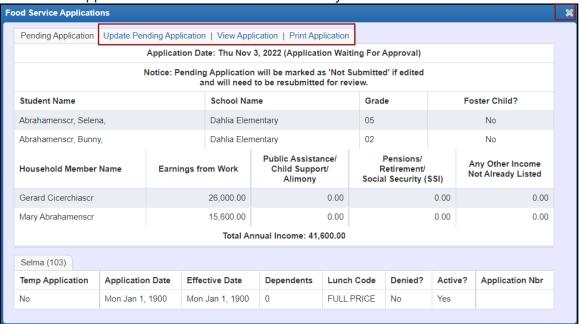
To view and print pending applications:

- 1. Click on **Food Service** from the Family Access General Information tree on the left side of the screen.
- If there are multiple students in your family, change from All Students in drop down in the top left of the screen and select an individual student to access the application.
- 3. Click on **Applications** to the right of the screen.



- 4. To update the pending application, click **Update Pending Application**. You can click **Next** to move through the pages or select a page from the Steps tree on the left side of the screen. When you have finished making changes, click **Submit**.
- 5. To view the pending application, click <u>View Application</u>. You can click <u>Next</u> to move through the pages or select a page from the Steps tree on the left side of the screen. When you have finished reviewing the application, click **Back**.

6. To print the pending application click <u>Print Application</u>. Once the application opens, click <u>Print</u> again, select your printer, and click <u>Print</u> one more time. Once the application has printed, click <u>Back</u>. Use the X to close the Food Service Applications window and return to Family Access.



Sign Up to receive Low Balance Notifications in Family Access

Another feature of Family Access is that you can sign up to receive Food Service Low Balance Notifications when your student's balance falls below an amount set by the District. You can receive these as an email, wall message in Family Access or bot.

To set up notifications when Food Service balance is low:

1. From the Family Access main screen, select My Account



- In Account settings, check the box to Receive Emails when Food Service Balance
 is under (the amount is preset by your district). And select from the choices of
 Email, Wall Message or Email and Wall Message.
- 3. Click Save

