

[Insert Sponsor Letterhead; Non-Pricing Program - Child Care]

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is intended for parents or guardians of children enrolled in a child care center. **[Name of Center]** offers healthy meals to all enrolled children as part of our participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP provides reimbursements for healthy meals and snacks served to children enrolled in child care. Please help us comply with the requirements of the CACFP by completing the attached Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form. In addition, by filling out this form, we will be able to determine if your child(ren) qualifies for free or reduced price meals.

1. Do I need to fill out a Meal Benefit Form for each of my children in day care? You may complete and submit one CACFP Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form for all children enrolled in child care in your household **only** if the children in child care are enrolled in the same center. We cannot approve a form that is not complete, so be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill out all required information. **Return the completed form to: [(Name of Center, address, phone number)].**

2. Who can get free meals without providing income information? Children in households getting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits can get free meals. Foster children and children enrolled in Head Start are also eligible for free meals. Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free meals.

3. Who can get reduced price meals? Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, shown on this application. Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for reduced price meals.

4. May I fill out a form if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for meal benefits offered at the child care center.

5. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include everyone in your household (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you) who shares income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children who live with you. You also may include foster children who live with you.

6. How do I report income information and changes in employment status? The income you report must be the total gross income listed, by source, each household member received last month. If last month's income does not accurately reflect your circumstances, you may provide a projection of your monthly income. If no significant change has occurred, you may use last month's income as a basis to make this projection. If your household's income is equal to or less than the amounts indicated for your household's size on the attached Income Chart, the center will receive a higher level of reimbursement. Once properly approved for free or reduced price benefits, whether through income or by providing a current SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number, you will remain eligible for those benefits for 12 months. You should notify us, however, if you or someone in your household becomes unemployed and the loss of income causes your household income to be within the eligibility standards.

7. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you only get it sometimes.

8. What if I have foster children? Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Households may include foster children on the Meal Benefit Form, but are not required to include payments received for the foster child as income. Households wishing to apply for such benefits for foster children should contact **[name, address, phone number]**.

9. We are in the military, do we include our housing and supplemental allowances as income? If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative and you receive the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance, do not include these allowances as income. Also, in regard to deployed service members, only that portion of a deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household will be counted as income to the household. Combat Pay, including Deployment Extension Incentive Pay (DEIP) is also excluded and will not be counted as income to the household. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no person will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you have other questions or need help, call **[phone number]**.

Sincerely,
[signature]

[Insert Sponsor Letterhead; Pricing Program - Child Care]

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This letter is intended for parents or guardians of children enrolled in a child care center. **[Name of Center]** offers healthy meals to all enrolled children as part of our participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP provides reimbursements for healthy meals and snacks served to children enrolled in child care. Please help us comply with the requirements of the CACFP by completing the attached Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form. Your child(ren) may buy lunch for \$____, breakfast for \$____, and snack for \$____. Your child(ren) may also receive meals free or at a reduced price of \$____ for lunch, \$____ for breakfast, and \$____ for snack. In addition, by filling out this form, we will be able to determine if your child(ren) qualifies for free or reduced price meals.

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10. Will the information I give be verified? There may be a possibility that your application may be selected for verification. We may ask you to send written proof to verify the information you submitted on the form. What if I disagree with the decision about the information I complete on this form? You should talk to your **[Center or Sponsoring Organization]**.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no person will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you have other questions or need help, call **[phone number]**.

Sincerely,
[signature]

**Instructions For Completing the CACFP
Child Care Center Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form**

Follow these instructions, if your household gets SNAP, TANF or FDPIR:

Part 1: List all enrolled children and household members.

Part 2: List the case number for any household members (including adults) receiving **State SNAP** or **State TANF** or **FDPIR** benefits.

Part 3: Skip this part.

Part 4: Skip this part.

Part 5: Sign the form. The last four digits of a Social Security Number are **not** necessary.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose.

FOSTER CHILDREN HOUSEHOLDS, will follow these instructions:

A Meal Benefit Form is not required to be completed. Contact the center at *[insert sponsor telephone number]*; OR

If some of the children in the household are foster children:

Part 1: List all enrolled children and household members. For any people, including children, with no income, you must check the "No Income Box." Check the box if the child is a foster child.

Part 2: If the household does not have a case number, skip this part.

Part 3: If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway, check the appropriate box and call [your school, homeless liaison, migrant coordinator]. If not, skip this part.

Part 4: Follow these instructions to report total household income for this month or last month.

Column A – Name: List only the first and last name of **each** person living in your household who share income and expenses, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you) with income. Include yourself and all children living with you. Attach another sheet of paper if you need to.

Column B – Gross Income and How Often it was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must tell us how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly.

Box 1: List the **gross income**, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your stub or your boss can tell you.

Box 2: List the amount each person got for the month from welfare, child support, alimony.

Box 3: List retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's (VA) benefits, disability benefits.

Box 4: List ALL OTHER INCOME SOURCES including Worker's Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income. For ONLY the self-employed, report income after expenses in Box 1. Box 4 is for your business, farm or rental property. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC or Federal education benefits. If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative or get combat pay, do not include this housing allowance as income.

Part 5: Adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of the Social Security Number or mark the box if she/he doesn't have one.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose.

ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, including WIC households, follow these instructions:

Part 1: List all enrolled children and household members. For any people, including children, with no income, you must check the “No Income Box.”

Part 2: Skip this part.

Part 3: Skip this part.

Part 4: Follow these instructions to report total household income for this month or last month.

Column A – Name: List only the first and last name of **each** person living in your household who share income and expenses, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you) with income. Include yourself and all children living with you. Attach another sheet of paper if you need to.

Column B – Gross Income and How Often it was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must tell us how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly.

Box 1: List the **gross income**, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your stub or your boss can tell you.

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Box 4: List ALL OTHER INCOME SOURCES including Worker’s Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income. For ONLY the self-employed, report income after expenses in Box 1. Box 4 is for your business, farm or rental property. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC or Federal education benefits. If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative or get combat pay, do not include this housing allowance as income.

Part 5: Adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of the Social Security Number or mark the box if she/he doesn’t have one.

Part 6: Answer this question if you choose.

Privacy Act Statement: This explains how we will use the information you give us.

Non-discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

Child and Adult Care Food Program Child Care Center Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form

Part 1. All Household Members

Name of Enrolled Child(ren):		
Names of all household members (First, Middle Initial, Last)	CHECK IF A FOSTER CHILD (THE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY OF A WELFARE AGENCY OR COURT) * IF ALL CHILDREN LISTED BELOW ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, SKIP TO PART 5 TO SIGN THIS FORM.	CHECK IF NO INCOME
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 2. Benefits: If any member of your household received [State SNAP], [FDPIR], or [State TANF cash assistance], provide the name and case number for the person who receives benefits. **If no one receives these benefits, skip to part 3.**
 NAME: _____ CASE NUMBER: _____

Part 3. If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway, check the appropriate box and call **[Your center director, Homeless Liaison, Migrant Coordinator at Phone #]** Homeless Migrant Runaway

Part 4. Total Household Gross Income—You must tell us how much and how often

A. Name (List only household members with income) <i>(Example)</i> <i>Jane Smith</i>	B. Gross income and how often it was received			
	1. Earnings from work before deductions	2. Welfare, child support, alimony	3. Pensions, retirement, Social Security, SSI, VA benefits	4. All Other Income
	\$200/weekly _____	\$150/twice a month _____	\$100/monthly _____	\$ _____ / _____
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____

Part 5. Signature and Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (Adult must sign)

An adult household member must sign this form. **If Part 3 is completed, the adult signing the form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the "I do not have a Social Security Number" box.** (See Privacy Act Statement on the back of this page.)

I certify that all information on this form is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the center or day care home will get Federal funds based on the information I give. I understand that CACFP officials may verify the information. I understand that if I purposely give false information, the participant receiving meals may lose the meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted.

Sign Here: _____ Print Name: _____
 Date: _____
 Address: _____ Phone Number: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Last four digits of Social Security Number: * * * - * * - _____ I do not have a Social Security Number

Part 6. Participant's ethnic and racial identities (optional)

Mark one ethnic identity:	Mark one or more racial identities:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American	

Don't fill out this part. This is for official use only.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice A Month x 24, Monthly x 12

Total Income: _____ Per: Week, Every 2 Weeks, Twice A Month, Month, Year Household size: _____

Categorical Eligibility: _____ Eligibility: Free _____ Reduced _____ Denied (Paid) _____ Date Withdrawn: _____

Reason for Denied: _____

Temporary: Free _____ Reduced _____ Time Period: _____ (expires after _____ days)

Determining Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Confirming Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Follow-up Official's Signature: _____ Date: _____

The participant in the day care facility may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls within the limits on this chart.

Household size	Yearly
1	\$21,590
2	\$29,101
3	\$36,612
4	\$44,123
5	\$51,634
6	\$59,145
7	\$66,656
8	\$74,167
Each additional person:	+\$7,511

Privacy Act Statement: 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 the participant 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 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 for the participant or other (FDPIR) identifier 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 the participant is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the Program.

Non-discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

[Insert Sponsor Letterhead – Pricing Program Only]

**Child and Adult Care Food Program
Letter of Income Verification
Child Care Center Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form Information**

[Date]

Dear **[Name]**:

We are checking your CACFP Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form. We must do this to make sure that CACFP benefits only those who are eligible. You must send us information to prove that **[name(s) of participant(s)]** is eligible.

If possible, send copies, not original papers. If you do send originals, they will be sent back to you only if you ask. Do not send your EBT card or any other benefit card that you will need.

1. If you were getting SNAP, TANF or FDPIR when you applied for free or reduced price meals, or at any time since then, send us a copy of one of these:

- SNAP, TANF or FDPIR Certification Notice that shows dates of certification.
- Letter from SNAP or Welfare Office that says you have been approved to get SNAP or TANF.

2. If you get this letter for a foster child:

Provide the name and contact information for a person at the agency or court who can verify that the child is the legal responsibility of the agency or court.

3. If you do not get SNAP, TANF or FDPIR: Send this page along with papers that show the amount of money your household gets from each source of income. The papers you send must show the **name** of the person who received the income, the **date** it was received, **how much** was received, and **how often** it was received. **Send information to: [address].**

Acceptable Papers Include:

Jobs: Paycheck stub or pay envelope that shows the amount and how often pay is received; letter from employer stating gross wages and how often they are paid; or business or farming papers, such as ledger books or tax returns.

Social Security, Pensions, or Retirement: Social Security retirement benefit letter, statement of benefits received, or pension award notice.

Unemployment, Disability, or Worker's Comp.: Notice of eligibility from State employment security office, check stub, or letter from Worker's Compensation.

Welfare Payments: Benefit letter from welfare agency.

Child Support or Alimony: Court decree, agreement, or copies of checks received.

Other income (such as rental income): Information that shows the amount of income received, how often it is received, and the date it is received.

No income: A brief note explaining how you provide food, clothing and housing for your household, and when you expect to receive an income.

Military Housing Privatization Initiative: Letter or rental contract showing that your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative.

Timeframe of Acceptable Income Documentation: Please submit papers that show your income at the time that you applied for benefits. If you do not have this information, you may submit papers from the time of completing the CACFP Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form up to the time of verification.

If you have questions or need help, please contact **[name]** at **[phone number]** or our center will no longer be eligible to receive free or reduced price reimbursement for meals served to your child(ren).

Sincerely,

[signature]

[Insert Sponsor Letterhead – Pricing Program Only]

**Child and Adult Care Food Program
Letter of Verification Results
Child Care Center Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form Information**

[Date:]

Dear **[Name]**:

We checked the information you sent us to prove that **[name(s) of participant]** is eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits at our facility and have decided that:

- The participant's eligibility has not changed.
- Starting **[date]**, the participant's eligibility for meal benefits will be changed **from reduced price to free** because the verified income is within the free meal eligibility limits. The participant will receive meals at no cost.
- Starting **[date]**, the participant's eligibility for meals will be changed **from free to reduced price** because the verified income is over the limit.
- Starting **[date]**, **the participant is no longer eligible** for free or reduced price meals for the following reason(s):
 - ___ Records show that you did not receive SNAP, TANF or FDPIR.
 - ___ Your income is over the limit for free or reduced price meals.
 - ___ You did not provide: _____
 - ___ You did not respond to our request.

If your household income goes down or your household size goes up, you may complete another CACFP Meal Benefit Income Eligibility Form. If you did not provide proof of current eligibility, you will be asked to do so if you reapply.

If you disagree with this decision, you may discuss it with **[name]** at **[phone]**. You also have the right to a fair hearing. If you request a hearing by **[date]**, the participant will continue to receive free or reduced price meals until the decision of the hearing official is made. You may request a hearing by calling or writing to: **[name], [address], [phone number]**.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. "In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."