



Maintenance & Operations
Facilities
Student Nutrition Services
Warehouse

Phone (530) 757-5385 ▪ Fax (530) 757-5321
Phone (530) 759-2182 ▪ Fax (530) 757-5321
Phone (530) 759-2186 ▪ Fax (530) 757-5321
Phone (530) 757-5385 ▪ Fax (530) 757-5321

Davis Joint Unified School District ▪ Winfred B. Roberson, Superintendent
1919 Fifth Street ▪ Davis, CA 95616 ▪ www.djUSD.net

Questions about Free & Reduced-Price Meal Applications

How can I get my application approved *fast*?

- Use **black** or **blue** ink,
- Print clearly,
- Use the student's name as it appears on his/her Birth Certificate,
- List **all** other household members,
- Fill in a Social Security Number for the signer or write "None",
- Signature is **required**, and
- Foster children must be on a separate form.

Do you need one application for each child?

No. Complete one application for all students in your household. Be sure to fill out all required information; we cannot approve an application that is not complete. Return the completed application to the:

- Student Nutrition Services Office,
- School Office, or
- School kitchen manager.

Who can receive free meals?

Your child can get free meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines. Also, free meals are available to most foster children and to children in households receiving benefits from:

- Food Stamps,
- CalWORKs,
- KinGAP, or
- FDPIR.

Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?

Yes. If you have or are a homeless, runaway or migrant child and have not been informed that you can get free meals, please contact the Student Nutrition Services at **(530) 759-2186**.

I got a letter saying my children are approved for free meals for this school year. Should I still fill out an application?

All applications must be renewed every new school year. Please carefully read the letter you received and follow the instructions. Call Student Nutrition Services at **(530) 759-2186** if you have questions.

Who can receive reduced-price meals?

Your child can receive lower priced meals if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Eligibility Guidelines. Please fill out an application.

I receive WIC benefits. Can my child get free meals?

Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for reduced-price or free meals. Please fill out an application.

Will the information I give be checked?

Yes, we may ask you to send written proof of the information you give.

If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?

You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, your income goes up or down by \$50 or more a month, or you start getting Food Stamps, CalWORKs, KinGAP, FDPIR, or other benefits. If you lose your job, your child may be able to get reduced-price or free meals.

What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?

You should talk to a school official. You also may ask for a hearing by calling **(530) 759-2186** or writing to: Student Nutrition Services, 1919 Fifth Street, Davis, CA 95616.

May I apply if my child or I are not U.S. citizens?

Yes. Neither you nor your child have to be a U.S. citizen for your child to receive reduced-price or free meals.

Who should I include as members of my household?

Include the student, yourself, and anyone who lives in the same dwelling as the student and who receives any kind of support (such as food, shelter, clothing or allowance) from the student's parent or guardian—even if they are not related to you or the student. Also list any foster children living in the home.

What if my income is not always the same?

You will list the amount that you normally receive **before** deductions. For example, if you normally receive \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1,000 per month. If you are normally paid for overtime, include it.

Are applications available in other languages?

Applications are available in English and Spanish. Please call Student Nutrition Services at **(530) 759-2186** to discuss availability of applications in other languages.

Why is it necessary to use the same name as it appears on the birth certificate?

Since the School District uses the birth date and name information from the birth certificate for all school records, applications are validated using the same information. Clearly, nicknames and family abbreviations delay the application process and may prevent approval.

Why do you list all other household members?

The consideration for approval of an application is based on income and the number of household members. Therefore, it is to your advantage to list all member of the household.

Why do I need to fill out Social Security Number (SSN) and sign the application?

An SSN is not required if the student has a case number issued by Food Stamps, CalWORKs, KinGAP, or FDPIR. This is the **only** case where the SSN may be left blank. Write "None" if you do not have an SSN. In any other case, if this is not filled in, the application will be returned for completion before it can be approved.

If I have a student living at home that goes to a private school, charter school, or preschool, should I include them on the application?

Yes, include them in Section (a) under Student/Child Information.

Direct Certification

What is direct certification?

Under direct certification, school districts use information from state welfare or Food Stamps offices to certify children to receive free meals. To qualify, the children's families must receive Food Stamps, CalWORKs, KinGAP, or FDPIR.

How do I know if my student is direct certified?

Direct certification letters are sent to the homes of preapproved students.

If one student in a household is direct certified, are the remaining students also direct certified?

Yes, The eligibility for free meals extends to all household members attending school or participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).#