

How To Apply for Free Special Milk

household, even if your children attend more than one school in the Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free special milk. You only need to submit one application per [Insert School District].

do next, please contact 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 The application must be filled out completely to determine the eligibility of your child(ren) for free special milk. Please follow these [Insert school/school district contact here; phone and email preferred].

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

you to be a part of your household. 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

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;
- Students attending (regardless of age) [school/school system here]. In your care under a formal foster arrangement through a court or state/local agency, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth,

first letter of each child's middle short for middle initial. Print the applies to adults in Step 3. "MI" is additional children. This also all required information for the if completing electronically) with of paper (or a second application application, attach a second piece children present than lines on the out of space. If there are more of the application for each child. letter in each box. Stop if you run When printing names, write one each child's name. Use one line A) List each child's name. Print

If "Yes," write the grade level of the student in the

B) Is the child a student? C) Do you have any foster children? If any "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. If children listed are foster children, mark the finishing Step 1, go to Step 4.

custody and placed with a state-licensed adult, minor child who has been taken into state who cares for the child in place of their parent considered foster children. A foster child is a Step 3. Note: Adopted children are not listed on your application. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be

"Grade" column to the right, you are ONLY applying for foster children, after "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the potentially needing to contact you later complete an income-based application. You may staff. If the school district cannot confirm your section meets this description, mark the order to prevent the school district from choose to provide income information now in then the school district will contact you to student's homeless, migrant, or runaway status, must be confirmed with the appropriate program D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or application, Homeless, Migrant, Runaway status child's name and complete all steps of the runaway? If you believe any child listed in this

Step 2: Do any household members currently participate in SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR?

for free special milk: If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or [Insert State SNAP here]
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or [Insert State TANF here].
- 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 [Insert State/local agency contacts here] 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

List adult household members' names.

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

List earnings from work.

employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income. Net income is your income after taxes and deductions have been subtracted 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-

- 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.
- 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 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

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

List income from public assistance/child support/alimony.

should be reported as "other" income in the next part. benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments 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

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.

List total household size.

them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free special milk. 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 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

Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.

right labeled "Check If no Social Security Number." 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 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

3.B List income earned by children

List all income earned or received by children.

you are applying for them together with the rest of your household 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

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

back of the application. information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the statements on the All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all

available. If you have no permanent address, that is okay. mailing address in the fields provided, if this information is but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional A) Provide your contact information. Write your current

application and that person signs name of the adult signing the in the box "Signature of adult." and write today's date. Print the B) Print and sign your name

C) Mail completed application to:

address here School/District

Please return the application directly to your child's SCHOOL. DO NOT mail, fax, or email completed applications or protected by the Privacy Act. By providing this information, you will assist us in assuring that this program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

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

ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free special milk. This information is requested solely for the

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

Optiona

special milk will be delayed. questions about applications to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights or your child's eligibility for free

Earnings from Work Public Assistance/Almony/ Child Support
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Bask pay and cash bonuses (do NDT include Allmorry payments combat pay, FSS4, or privatized housing Child support payments
OPHIGNAL 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 special milk.
We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to and does not affect your children's eligibility for free special milk. Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other
We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to read does not affect your children's eligibility for free special milk. Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Nativo Asian Black or African American Nativo Nativo Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax, or email completed applications to the U.S. Department
We are required to ask for information about your children's race an and does not affect your children's eligibility for free special milk. Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or takino (A person of Cubin, Mexican, Puerto Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Nativo Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax. [DO NOT FILL OUT] For school use only. Annual Income Conversion: Weekly × 52, Every 2 Weeks × 26, Twice Total Income
We are required to ask for information about yo and does not affect your children's eligibility for Ethnicity (check one): Race (check one or more): Return this completed form to your child's school DO NOT FILL OUT For school use only. Annual income Conversion: Weekly × 52, Every 3 Total Income
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Prototype Household Application for Free Special Milk

Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

RETURN TO (School/District Name): APPLY ONLINE:

If you checke	Child's First Name Grade Foster Child Migrant Runaway Homeless	List ALL children in the household. Do not forget to list infants, children attending other schools, children not in school, and children not applying for benefits. This includes children not related to you in your household.	SHEC 1 List ALL children, infants, and students up to and including grade 12. Attach another sheet of paper if you need space for more names.	ADDRESS:	old. If you checke	nour househo	stated to you in y Runaway	children not rel	re names. efts. This includes Foster child	for more for benefit	STEP 1 List ALL children List ALL children in the housel Child's First Name
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		Н		1 3					eck all th							Appli	Application Instruction's Seen 1: Part C
		H						T	Ches							& Part D.	Step 1: Part C & Part D.
STEP 2 Do any household members (including you) participate in: SNAP, TANE, or FDPIR?	you) participate i	n: SNAP,	TANF, or	FDPIR?							Н						
O NO - GO to STEP 3. O YES -	Write case number here and proceed to STEP 4.	r here an	proceed	to STEP 4	*	CASE	CASE NUMBER (NOT ENT	SEL NOWBERL:	:pq:				Write only one case number in this space.	ase numb	ser in this :	space.	
STEP 3 List ALL household members and income for each member (before taxes and deductions)	me for each mem	ber (befo	re taxes	and ded	uctions										П		
A. All Adult Household Members (Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related, including you.) List all Adult Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Memb deductions for each source in whole dollars (no certs) only, if they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or le ave a	is living with you STEP 1 (including you o cents) only, if they	and share urself) eve do not re	es incom en if they eceive inc	e and ex do not ome fron	penses, r receive i	even if n ncome. nce, write	ot related, For each Ho O'. If you er	including usehold I ter '0' orl	you.) Viember e ave am	listed, if th /fields.blani	cyouan	ive inco e certifyi	uding you.) Normber listed, if they receive income, report total gross income (before taxes and 'O' orle ave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.	tal gross that the	income re is no	(before	taxes and to report.
the state of the control of the cont	Action of the parties of		How	often received?	ed?		Public Assistance,		Mark of	flow other received?		Persion Sodal S	Pensions, Retirement, Sodal Security, SSI,		How ofte	How often received?	
Name of Adult Hoseshold Members (First and Lott)	Earnings from Work	Appear	Deery 2 Weeks	2x Month	Mandaly	Arrest	Allmany	Waddy	2 Wasts	Ze Month	Movedy	lacers .	VA Benefits, All Other Income	Workly .	2 Weeks	2x Month	Monthly
	50	0	0	0	0	0	**	0	0	٥	0			0	0	0	0
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Total Household Members (Children and Adults)	2 76	Just Four Numbers of Social Security Number of Primary Wage Earner or other Adult Household Member (If Applicable)	mbers of S e Earner or Applicable)	ocial Secur other Adu	ty Numbe	old of	Ц	£ 0	Check if no Social Security Number	octal D			Please see application's back for list of income sources.	applicat	tion's be	ck.	
Child Income Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income.	e income.					s.	Child Income		0 4	Story 3X N	O mendo nation) ×	O Anna				
STEP 4 Contact information and adult signature. RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL:	Ire. RETURN COM	PLETED R	ORM TO	YOUR CH	35 S.CIII	HOOL	insert	insert school address here	dress he	ā			Ц				
"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true, and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given inconnection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify, (confirm) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."	olication is true, and ourposely give false	that all in	tion, my	reported	l unders	land that se benef	this informa	tion is give y be pro:	en incon secuted	nection with under appl	the reo	alpt of Fi	ederal funds, . Federal laws.	and that	school	officials	may verify
Print Name of Adult Signing the Form		ايدا	Signature of Adult	Adult	,		L]	7	Toda	Today's Date]	,	-			
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE SPECIAL MILK

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy milk to learn. [Name of School/School District] offers healthy milk every school day. Your children may qualify for free special milk. This packet includes an application for free special milk benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

WHO CAN GET FREE SPECIAL MILK?

- All children in households receiving benefits from Alabama SNAP, the Food Distribution Program
 on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), Alabama TANF, or Alabama Medicaid Free are eligible for free
 milk.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free milk.
- · Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free milk.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free milk.
- Children may receive free special milk if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free special milk if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGI	BILITY INCOME CHART	For School Year 2023-202	24
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$17,667	\$1,473	\$340
2	\$23,803	\$1,984	\$458
3	\$29,939	\$2,495	\$576
4	\$36,075	\$3,007	\$694
5	\$42,211	\$3,518	\$812
6	\$48,347	\$4,029	\$930
7	\$54,483	\$4,541	\$1,048
8	\$60,619	\$5,052	\$1,166
Each additional person:	\$6,136	\$512	\$118

- 2. 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 milk, please call or e-mail [school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator].
- DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Use one Free Special Milk 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: [name, address, phone number].
- 4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE SPECIAL MILKS? 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 [name, address, phone number, e-mail] immediately.

CAN I APPLY ONLINE?

Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are	e
able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the pa	
application. Visit [website] to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact [name	١,
address, phone number, e-mail] if you have any questions about the online application.	
No, an online application is not available at this time.	

- 6. 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, through [date]. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free milk, your child will be charged the full price for milk.
- I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MILK? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free special milk. Please send in an 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 special milk 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: [name, address, phone number, e-mail].
- 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 special milk.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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.
- 14. DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER? Only the last 4 digits of the social security number of the household's primary wage earner or another adult household member (or an indication of "none") is required.
- 15. 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.
- 16. 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 [name, address, phone number, e-mail] 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 Alabama SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call (800) 382-0499.

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

Sincerely,

[signature]

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION 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, 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: <u>USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form</u> 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; or 2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

"The enclosed "non discrimination" language herein was added pursuant to the May 5, 2022, USDA memorandum. However, although included as currently required for audit compliance by the USDA, the State of Alabama objects to its inclusion, applicability and the application of this language due to currently pending legal challenges in the matter of The State of Tennessee, et al. v. USDA, et al., Case No. 3:22-cv-00257, and may be subject to change or removal.