

# DO I NEED TO SUBMIT A FREE/REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR?

Updated August 2023

START ►

MY STUDENT ATTENDS:

CMS, EPES, FES,  
MES, or RES

HHS, LMS, LIC,  
LPC, or CES

**No need to fill out the application.**  
All families at these schools are eligible for free lunch regardless of household eligibility due to Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

## KEY DEFINITION:

**Community Eligibility Provision (CEP):** A federal program that allows schools to serve school meals at no cost without collecting household applications to students in buildings with a high percentage of directly certified and categorically eligible students.

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

Breakfast is **FREE** for all students for the 2023-24 school year. Proceed through this flowchart to find out if your household needs to submit an application for free or reduced lunch meals.

Does your household receive SNAP, income-eligible Medical Assistance, and/or TANF?

Yes

**No need to fill out the application.**  
These families are **directly certified** for free lunch.

No

Move to the right to check if any other scenarios apply to your household.

Is your student **verified through Student Services** as any of the following: homeless, migrant, foster, and/or runaway?

Yes

**No need to fill out the application.**  
These students are **eligible** for free lunch based on the categories above.

No

Move to the right to check if any other scenarios apply to your household.

Does your household qualify for free or reduced meals based on the income guidelines provided?

Yes

**Yes, an application must be submitted.**  
Applications can be submitted via SchoolCafé, Compass, or paper application. Details are available at [hempfieldsd.org/foodservices](http://hempfieldsd.org/foodservices)

No

**Your family does not qualify.** Please do not submit an application.

None of these scenarios apply to my family.

**Your family does not qualify.** Please do not submit an application.

## SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

If a student attends a CEP building and needs a letter of student eligibility for waived fees for other programs, but is not directly certified or categorically eligible, a family would have to fill out an application to prove income-based eligibility.

If a household has students in both a CEP building and a non-CEP building, an application will need to be submitted for the student(s) in the non-CEP building if they are not categorically eligible and meet the provided income guidelines.