

Westwood Public Schools

Student Name: _____



I Speak Statements

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unë flas shqip (Albanian) | <input type="checkbox"/> N a po Klào Win. (Kru) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> አማርኛ እናገራለሁ (Amharic) | <input type="checkbox"/> ຂ້າພາຍເຈົ້າເວົ້າ ພາສາລາວ. (Lao) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> انا اتكلم اللغة العربية. (Arabic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yie gorngv Mienh waac. (Mien) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ես խոսում եմ հայերեն (Armenian) | <input type="checkbox"/> म नेपाली बोल्छु (Nepali) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> আমি বাংলা ভাষী। (Bengali) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mówię po polsku . (Polish) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ja govorim bosanski jezik (Bosnian) | <input type="checkbox"/> Eu falo Português . (Portuguese) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ကျွန်တော်ပြောတာကပြာသဉ်။ (Burmese) | <input type="checkbox"/> ਇ ਸੁਪਆਕ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 我说中文 (Chinese Simplified) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cunosc limba Română . (Romanian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 我說中文 (Chinese Traditional) | <input type="checkbox"/> Я говорю по-русски . (Russian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ja govorim hrvatski . (Croatian) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ou te tautala faaSamoa . (Samoan) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> اینتجانپ به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنم (Farsi) | <input type="checkbox"/> Govorim srpski . (Serbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Je parle français . (French) | <input type="checkbox"/> Waxaan ku hadlaa Somali . (Somali) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Je parle le Français haïtien (French Creole) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yo hablo español . (Spanish) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Μιλάω ελληνικά . (Greek) | <input type="checkbox"/> أتحدث السودانية (لغوي سوداني) (Sudanese) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ຊື່ ગુજરાતી બોલુ છું (Gujarati) | <input type="checkbox"/> Marunong po akong magsalita ng Tagalog . (Tagalog) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mwen pale Kreyòl . (Haitian Creole) | <input type="checkbox"/> ข้าพเจ้าพูด ภาษาไทย (Thai) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> म हिंदी बोलता हूँ (Hindi) | <input type="checkbox"/> አነ ትግርኛ ይዘረብ እየ. (Tigrinya) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kuv hais lus hmoob . (Hmong) | <input type="checkbox"/> Я розмовляю українською . (Ukrainian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ana m a sụ Igbo (Igbo) | <input type="checkbox"/> میں اردو بولتا/ بولتی ہوں۔ (Urdu) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parlo Italiano (Italian) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tôi nói tiếng Việt . (Vietnamese) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 私は 日本語 を話します (Japanese) | <input type="checkbox"/> איך שייט ארע ארע (Yiddish) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mi chat Jamiekan langwjjj (Jamaican Creole) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mo gbọ Yoruba (Yoruba) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ykt ꨀꨁꨡꨣ ꨀ (Karen) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ខ្ញុំនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 본인의 모국어는 한국어 입니다 (Korean) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> نه ز زمانێ کوردی ده ناخفم. (Kurdish) | |

Westwood Public Schools

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Westwood Public Schools offers healthy meals every school day. This year, lunch is free for all students in Massachusetts. However, it is still advisable to fill out this application in order to be eligible for other fee waivers or reductions, such as Bus Fees or Athletic Fees.

Children who qualify for free or reduced price meals may also be eligible for Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits if the program is extended into the school year. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

If you are not receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and have been approved for free or reduced price school meals, you may be eligible for SNAP, which provides monthly financial assistance to purchase groceries to Massachusetts residents who qualify. Find out if you are eligible for SNAP today by calling **Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 1-800-645-8333** and a counselor can help you apply over the phone. You can also apply on your own online at DTA Connect: <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/apply>

Frequently Asked Questions

WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from **MA SNAP, MA TAFDC, FDPIR, or specific categories of Medicaid** are eligible for free meals.
- **Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.**
- **Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.**
- Children who meet the definition of **homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.**
- Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2022 - 2023			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$25,142	\$2,096	\$484
2	33,874	2,823	652
3	42,606	3,551	820
4	51,338	4,279	988
5	60,070	5,006	1,156
6	68,802	5,734	1,324
7	77,534	6,462	1,492
8	86,266	7,189	1,659
Each additional person:	+8,732	+728	+168

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 meals, please call or e-mail Westwood Public Schools, food@westwood.k12.ma.us.

DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?

No. USE ONE FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS 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: WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS/ FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT, 220 NAHATAN STREET, WESTWOOD, MA,02090, 781-326-7500 x4350

SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS?

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 Westwood Food Service Dept., 220 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA, 02090, 781-326-7500 x4350, food@westwood.k12.ma.us immediately.

CAN I APPLY ONLINE?

Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit www.westwood.k12.ma.us to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact Vinicio Cordon, FSD, 220 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA 02090, 781-326-7500 x4350, food@westwood.k12.ma.us, if you have any questions about the online application.

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. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?

Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in a completed 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. CAN 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 and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH SCHOOL OFFICIALS ABOUT MY APPLICATION?

You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Vinicio Cordon, FSD, 220 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA 02090, 781-326-7500, food@westwood.k12.ma.us.

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 or reduced price meals.

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.

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.

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, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, 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.

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 Vinicio Cordon, FSD, 220 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA 02090, 781-326-7500 x4350, food@westwood.k12.ma.us to receive a second application if needed or go to the Food Services website (under Quick Links on the Westwood Schools homepage).

MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?

To find out how to apply for MA SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call the MA SNAP Hotline at 1-866-950-3663.

If you have other questions or need help, call 781-326-7500 x4350

Sincerely,

Vinicio Cordon
Food Service Director
7/1/2022

NOTE: 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 submit all needed information, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the primary wage earner or other 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 or other FDPIR identifier for your child 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 your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs.

We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

Non-Discrimination 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, audiotope, 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: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, 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:

1. **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:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.