# St. Peter's Lutheran School **2023-2024 Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals** Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

STEP1 List AL	L infants, children, and students up t	o grad	de 12 who are members of your ho	<b>busehold</b> (if more spa	ces are required for additio	
Definition of <b>Household</b>	Child's First Name	МІ	Child's Last Name	Student? Yes No	Only Students: Name of School Building	Living with parent or Homeles Only Students: Only Students: caretaker relative? Foster Migrant Birthdate Grade Yes No Child Runawa
Member: "Anyone who is living with you and shares	1					
income and expenses, even if not related."	2					
Children in <b>Foster care</b> and children who meet the definition of <b>Homeless</b> ,	3					
Migrant or Runaway are eligible for free meals. Read						
How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School	T 2					
Meals for more information.	2					
STEP 2 Do any H	lousehold Members (including you)	currei	ntly participate in one or more of	the following assis	tance programs: SNAP	(Food Stamp) or TANF?
	If NO > Go to STEP 3.	If	<b>YES</b> > Write a case number here then go	to STEP 4 (Do not comp	lete STEP 3)	Case Number: / / / / / / / / /
						Write only one case number in this space.
STEP 3 Report	t Income for ALL Household Memb	bers (S	Skip this step if you answered 'Yes' to	STEP 2)		
Are you unsure what to do here? Please read How to Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals for more information. The Sources of	<ul> <li>A. Child Income</li> <li>Sometimes children in the household earn of in household listed in STEP 1 here.</li> <li>B. All Adult Household Members (in List all Household Members not listed in STE before any taxes or deductions for (promising) that there is no income to report. Name of Adult Household Members (First and Last)</li> </ul>	ncludi EP 1 (inc each sc	<b>ng yourself)</b> cluding yourself) <b>even if they do not receive</b>	e income. For each House do not receive income fro Public Assistance.	\$ bitsed, if they do m any source, write '0'. If you e	How often? Veekly Every 2 Wks 2x Month Monthly Preceive income, report total (gross) income nter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income Weekly Every 2 Wks 2x Month Mont
Income for Children section will help you with the Child		\$				
Income question.	2	\$		○ \$		
The Sources of Income for Adults	3	\$		◯ \$		
section will help you with the <b>All Adult</b>	4	\$		<b>\$</b>		
Household Members section.	5	\$			$\bigcirc \bigcirc $	
certify (promise) that all inform	Total Household Members (Children and Adults)         ct information and adult signatur         nation on this application is true and that all income is repay lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under application	P e. Ma	understand that this information is given in connecti	fth Street, Colum		Check if no SSN
Printed name of adult comp			ignature of adult completing the form		Today's date	
Street Address (if available)	Apt #	C	Sity Sta	te Zip	Daytime Phone a	and Email (optional)

Ethnicity (check one):       American Indian or Alaskan Native         Hispanic or Latino       American Indian or Alaskan Native         Not Hispanic or Latino       Asian         ne Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do ave to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price metou must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signst oplication. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of anild or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy amilies (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or DPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application takes a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We are your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fundetermine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help to kinto violations of program rules.	ortant and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does         e (check one or more):         ve				
OPTIONAL       Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities         e are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is import affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.       Race (         Ethnicity (check one):       American Indian or Alaskan Native         Hispanic or Latino       Asian         Not Hispanic or Latino       Asian         e Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price measure unust include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs to bilication. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a so roy ou list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy milies (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or PIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the applicate so not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We are your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fun ermine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help k into violations of program rules.	ate         ortant and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does         ocheck one or more):         ve				
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ies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering rams are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or re taliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.	ons and 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Ig USDA Washington, D.C. 20250-9410				
INCOM	DME CONVERSION to YEARLY:				
WEEKLY X 52     EVERY 2 WEEKS X 26     TWICE A MONTH X 24     MONTHLY X 12					
Income Eligibility: Total Household Size: Total Income:\$ per:  Wee	IBILITY DETERMINATION         eekly       Every 2 Weeks       Monthly       Twice a Month       Yearly         way       Foster				
	VERIFICATION				
Confirmation Review Official: Ap	Application Direct Verified? Yes   No				
Date Verification Notice Sent: Approval Based On:	Verification Results: Reason for Change: Date Notice of Change				
Date Response Due from Households:	Free to Reduced     Household Size:				
Date Second Notice Sent (or N/A):	<ul> <li>Free to Paid</li> <li>Change in Food Stamps /TANF</li> <li>Reduced to Free</li> <li>Did not respond</li> <li>Reduced to Paid</li> <li>Other:</li> </ul>				
Request for Appeal       Date Hearing Requested:       Hearing Decision:   Verifying Official's Signature:					

### Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. St. Peter's Lutheran School offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$1.25**; lunch costs **\$3.50**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is **\$.30** for breakfast and **\$.40** for lunch. 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.

#### 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP (Food Stamps) or TANF, 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 2023-24				
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly	
1	26,973	2,248	519	
2	36,482	3,041	702	
3	45,991	3,833	885	
4	55,500	4,625	1,068	
5	65,009	5,418	1,251	
6	74,518	6,210	1,434	
7	84,027	7,003	1,616	
8	93,536	7,795	1,799	
Each additional				
person:	+9,509	+793	+183	

- 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 meals, please call or e-mail Mrs. Staci Schiefer, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201.
- 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 Lisa Garrison, 719 5th St. Columbus IN
  47201, (812)372-5266.

- 4. 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 Lisa Garrison, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201, (812)372-5266, Igarrison@stpeters-columbus.org
- 5. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. 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 meals, your child will be charged the full price of meals.*
- 6. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF MY CHILDREN RECEIVED FREE OR REDUCED MEALS AT THEIR PREVIOUS SCHOOL? If it is the beginning of the school year and you have not been notified that your children will receive free or reduced meals for the upcoming year, you will need to fill out an application. If your children transferred during the school year and they were receiving free or reduced meals at the previous school, contact Lisa Garrison, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201, (812)372-5266, lgarrison@stpeters-columbus.org immediately.
- 7. 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 an application.
- 8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? <u>Yes.</u> We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
- 9. 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 and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 10. 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: Mr. Paul Meredith, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201, pmeredith@stpeters-columbus.org
- 11. 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.
- 12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you <u>normally</u> 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. 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.
- 15. 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 Lisa Garrison, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201, (812)372-5266, lgarrison@stpeters-columbus.org immediately to receive a second application.
- 16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for SNAP (Food Stamp) or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-800-403-0864**.
- 17. If you have other questions or need help, call Lisa Garrison, (812)372-5266

Sincerely,

Lisa Garrison

# HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced price school meals. The application must be filled out completely to determine the eligibility of your child(ren) for free or reduced price school meals. Please follow these 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 do next, please Lisa Garrison, 719 5th St. Columbus IN 47201, (812)372-5266, lgarrison@stpeters-columbus.org

### Please use a pen (not a pencil) when filling out the application and do your best to print clearly.

## STEP 1 LIST ALL INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12 IN THE 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 you to be a part of your household.

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;
- In your care under a formal foster arrangement through a court or state/local agency, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending (regardless of age) St. Peter's Lutheran School

A) List each child's name. Print each	B) Is the child a student? If	C) Do you have any foster children? If any children listed are	D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or
child's name. Use one line of the	yes, write the grade level of	foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's	runaway? If you believe any child listed in this
application for each child. If there are	the student in the "Grade"	name. If you are ONLY applying for foster children, after	section meets this description, mark the "Homeless,
more children present than lines on the	column. For these students,	finishing STEP 1, go to STEP 4.	Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and
application, attach a second piece of	also complete the "Only for	Foster children who live with you may count as members of	complete all steps of the application. Homeless,
paper with all required information for	Students" section including the	your household and should be listed on your application. If you	Migrant, Runaway status must be confirmed with
the additional children. "MI" is short for	name of the school building,	are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to step	the appropriate program staff. If the school district
middle initial. Print the first letter of each	birthdate, and whether the	3.	cannot confirm your student's homeless, migrant, or
child's middle name in the box.	student is living with the	Note: Adopted children are not considered foster children. A	runaway status, then the school district will contact
	parent or caretaker.	foster child is a minor child who has been taken into state	you to complete an income-based application. You
		custody and placed with a state-licensed adult, who cares for	may choose to provide income information now in
		the child in place of their parent or guardian.	order to prevent the school district from potentially
			needing to contact you later.

# STEP 2 DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SNAP or TANF?

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

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs: programs: Write a case number for SNAP or TANF. You only need to provide one case number. If you participate in one of ٠

Leave STEP 2 blank and go to STEP 3. ٠

- these programs and do not know your case number, contact: 1-800-403-0864.
- Go to STEP 4. ٠

### STEP 3

### **REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

### How do I report my income?

• Use the charts titled "Sources of Income for Adults" and "Sources of Income for Children," to determine if your household has income to report.

Sources of Income for Children			
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)		
- Earnings from work	<ul> <li>A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Social Security</li> <li>Disability Payments</li> <li>Survivor's Benefits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits</li> <li>A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits</li> </ul>		
-Income from person outside the household	<ul> <li>A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money</li> </ul>		
-Income from any other source	- A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust		

Sources of Income for Adults				
Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income		
<ul> <li>Salary, wages, cash bonuses</li> <li>Net income from self- employment (farm or business)</li> <li>If you are in the U.S. Military:</li> <li>Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Unemployment benefits</li> <li>Worker's compensation</li> <li>Supplemental Security</li> <li>Income (SSI)</li> <li>Cash assistance from</li> <li>State or local</li> <li>government</li> <li>Alimony payments</li> <li>Child support payments</li> <li>Veteran's benefits</li> <li>Strike benefits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)</li> <li>Private pensions or disability benefits</li> <li>Regular income from trusts or estates</li> <li>Annuities</li> <li>Investment income</li> <li>Earned interest</li> <li>Rental income</li> </ul>		
privatized housing		- Regular cash payments		

allowances) - Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	fr	om outside household	

- 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.

1) List adult household members' names.	2) List earnings from work. Report all income from work in	3) List income from public assistance/child support/alimony.
Print the name of each household member in	the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is	Report all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child
the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household	usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a	Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do not report the cash
Members (First and Last)." Include college	self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your	value of any public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If
students, unless they are declared	net income.	income is received from child support or alimony, only report
independently on taxes (all college students	• What if I have multiple jobs? List each job	court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments should
are considered adults). <u>Do not list any</u>	separately by entering your name and income from	be reported as "other" income in the next part.
household members you listed in STEP 1.	each job on a new line. Add an additional sheet of	
	naner if necessary	

	<ul> <li>What if I am self-employed? Report income from that work as a net amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.</li> <li>If a child listed in Step 1 has income, follow the instructions in Step 3, Part B.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>4) List income from pensions/retirement/all other income. Report all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income" field on the application.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<b>5)</b> List total household size. 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 household members listed in <b>STEP 1</b> and <b>STEP 3</b> . If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free and reduced price meals.	6) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number. 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 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 right labeled "Check if no Social Security Number."

### **3-B. REPORT INCOME EARNED BY CHILDREN**

**Report all income earned or received by children.** Report the combined gross income for <u>ALL</u> children listed in **STEP 1** in your household in the box marked "child income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

• 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**

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

A) Provide your contact	B) Print and sign your name. Print	C) Mail Completed Form to:
information. Write your current	the name of the adult signing the	
mailing address in the fields	application and that person signs in	St. Peter's Lutheran School
provided, if this information is	the box "Signature of Adult."	719 Fifth Street
available. If you have no		Columbus, IN 47201
permanent address, that is okay.		Attn: Food Service Department
Sharing a phone number, email		
address, or both is optional, but		
helps us reach you quickly if we		
need to contact you.		

### **STEP 5: OTHER BENEFITS – OPTIONAL**

The following sections are optional and do not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

#### A) Hoosier Healthwise Disclosure

If you want to share your child's free/reduced eligibility in order to qualify for free or low-cost health insurance under Medicaid or Hoosier Healthwise, sign and date this section. **B)** 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 ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals. This information is requested solely for the 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 protected by the Privacy Act.

Please return the application directly to your child's SCHOOL. DO NOT mail, fax, or email completed applications or questions about applications to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights or your child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals will be delayed.