### PUBLIC RELEASE

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School and Northampton Public Schools families who were eligible for free or reduced meals for 2019-2020 school year must submit new applications for their children within 30 school days to continue to receive free or reduced meals for the 2020-2021 school year.

Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. Who can get free OR REDUCED PRICE meals?
   1. All children in households receiving benefits from **MA SNAP** or **MA TANF** are eligible for free meals.
   2. **Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.**
   3. **Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.**
   4. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
   5. 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.

If you have received a **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** from Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School or Northampton Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year, you **do not** need to complete an application. Please notify the school if any children in the household are not listed on the **NOTICE OF DIRECT CERTIFICATION** letter you received.

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School and Northampton Public Schools families who were eligible for free or reduced meals for 2019-2020 school year must submit new applications for their children within 30 school days to continue to receive free or reduced meals for the 2020-2021 school year.

Applications are accepted at any time during the school year and will be effective when approved by the Food Service Office. Applications are available on both the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School and Northampton Public School websites.

### INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

**(Effective July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reduced Meals (185%)** | | | | |
| **YEAR** | **MONTH** | **Twice per Month** | **Every Two Weeks** | **WEEK** |
| **$23,606** | **$1,968** | **$984** | **$908** | **$454** |
| **31,894** | **2,658** | **1,329** | **1,227** | **614** |
| **40,182** | **3,349** | **1,675** | **1,546** | **773** |
| **48,470** | **4,040** | **2,020** | **1,865** | **933** |
| **56,758** | **4,730** | **2,365** | **2,183** | **1,092** |
| **65,046** | **5,421** | **2,711** | **2,502** | **1,251** |
| **73,334** | **6,112** | **3,056** | **2,821** | **1,411** |
| **81,622** | **6,802** | **3,401** | **3,140** | **1,570** |
| **+8,288** | **+691** | **+346** | **+319** | **+160** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Free Meals (130%)** | | | | |
| **YEAR** | **MONTH** | **Twice per Month** | **Every Two Weeks** | **WEEK** |
| **$16,588/** | **$1,383** | **$692** | **$638** | **$319** |
| **22,412** | **1,868** | **934** | **862** | **431** |
| **28,236** | **2,353** | **1,177** | **1,086** | **543** |
| **34,060** | **2,839** | **1,420** | **1,310** | **655** |
| **39,884** | **3,324** | **1,662** | **1,534** | **767** |
| **45,708** | **3,809** | **1,905** | **1,758** | **879** |
| **51,532** | **4,295** | **2,148** | **1,982** | **991** |
| **57,356** | **4,780** | **2,390** | **2,206** | **1,103** |
| **+5,825** | **+486** | **+243** | **+224** | **+112** |

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