

Dear Participant/Parent-Guardian:

This letter is intended for adults/parents or parents/guardians of participants enrolled in a day care center. [Name of Center] offers healthy meals to all enrolled participants as part of our participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP provides reimbursements for healthy meals and snacks served to participants enrolled in care. Please help us comply with the requirements of the CACFP by completing the attached Household Income Eligibility Statement (HIES). In addition, by filling out this form, we will be able to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

1. Do I need to fill out a HIES for each participant enrolled in care? You may complete and submit one CACFP Household Income Eligibility Statement for all participants enrolled in day care in your household only if those in day care are enrolled in the same center. We cannot approve a form that is not complete, so be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill out all required information. Return the completed form to: ELC FSU, 1349 Cramer Circle BIS 101, Big Rapids, MI 49307

2. Which adult and child care institutions can receive free meal reimbursement without providing household income information? Adults receiving Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Food Assistance Program (FAP) Family Independence Program (FIP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) are eligible for free meals. Children in households receiving FAP, FIP, or FDPIR can get free meals. Foster children and children enrolled in Head Start Programs are also eligible for free meals.

3. Who can get reduced price meals? You may get low cost meals if your household's income is within the reduced-price limits on the federal income eligibility guidelines, **effective July 1, 2019 until June 30, 2020**, shown below:

Family Size	Yearly Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income
1	\$23,107	\$1,926	\$445
2	\$31,284	\$2,607	\$602
3	\$39,461	\$3,289	\$759
4	\$47,638	\$3,970	\$917
For each additional family member add:	\$8,177	\$682	\$158

Refer to the Instructions for Participants/Parents/Guardians Household Income Eligibility Statement on how to complete the HIES. Find the category that most closely defines your household and follow the directions for completing each part of the HIES. If your household income is greater than the levels shown on the above CACFP income guidelines, it is not necessary for you to complete the HIES form.

Families with Children:

Your family may be eligible to receive health insurance, called MICHild, through the State of Michigan. MICHild is a health insurance program for uninsured children of Michigan's working families. To determine if your family is eligible, call 1-888-988-6300 for an application or access an online application at the [MI Child website](http://www.michigan.gov/michild) (www.michigan.gov/michild). You can also access the MICHild brochure that briefly explains the insurance program.

Your family may be eligible to receive Women, Infants & Children (WIC), a health and nutrition program, that has demonstrated a positive effect on pregnancy outcomes, child growth and development. To determine eligibility, call 1-800-26-BIRTH or access online information at [Women, Infants, & Children \(WIC\) website](http://www.michigan.gov/wic) (http://www.michigan.gov/wic) to learn about WIC and locate a local WIC agency.

4. May I fill out a form if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. Participants and family members do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for meal benefits offered at the center.

5. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include all people in your household (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends who live with you). You must include yourself and all children who live with you. You also may include foster children who live with you.

6. How do I report income information and changes in employment status? The income you report must be the total gross income listed by source for each household member and the frequency the income is received. If recent income does not accurately reflect your circumstances, you may provide a projection of your income. If no significant change has occurred, you may use last month's income as a basis to make this projection. If your household's income is equal to or less than the amounts indicated for your household's size on the federal income eligibility guidelines listed above, the family day care home will receive a higher level of reimbursement. Once properly approved for the higher reimbursement rate, whether through income or by providing a current FAP, FIP, FDPIR case number, or listing the name of other categorically eligible programs, you will remain eligible for those benefits for 12 months. You should, however, notify us if you or someone in your household becomes unemployed and the loss of income unemployment causes your household income to be within the eligibility standards.

7. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally receive \$1,000 every two weeks, but you missed some work in the last two weeks and only received \$900, put down that you receive \$1,000 per every two weeks. If you normally receive overtime, include it, but not if you only receive it sometimes.

8. What if I have foster children? Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Households may include foster children on the HIES, but are not required to include payments received for the foster child as income.

9. We are in the military. Do we include our housing and supplemental allowances as income?

If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative and you receive the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance, do not include these allowances as income. Also, in regard to deployed service members, only that portion of a deployed service member's income made available by them or on their behalf to the household will be counted as income to the household. Combat Pay, including Deployment Extension Incentive Pay (DEIP), is also excluded and will not be counted as income to the household. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

In the operation of child feeding programs, the U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you have other questions or need help, call 231-591-2390.

Sincerely,

Debbie

Roberts

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) (http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) online, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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; (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**Instructions for Parents/Participants/Guardians
Household Income Eligibility Statement - Child Care Institutions**

If you are applying for foster child(ren) only, follow these instructions:

Part 1: Do not complete.

Part 2: List name, age, and birth date of foster child(ren); check the box for foster child.

Part 3: Sign and date the form. The last four digits of a social security number are not necessary.

If your household receives Food Assistance Program (FAP), Family Independence Program (FIP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits, follow these instructions:

Part 1: List the name and case number for any household member (including adults) receiving FAP, FIP, or FDPIR.

Part 2: List the name, age, and birth date for all children enrolled in day care.

Part 3: Sign and date the form. A Social Security Number is not necessary.

Note: Benefits received under WIC, Medicaid, or Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Child Care Assistance Program (where DHHS pays a portion of your child care expense) does not automatically qualify for Category A (free) meals.

All other households, including households where some of the children are foster children, follow these instructions (not required if household is over the income limits and don't have any foster children):

Part 1: Do not complete.

Part 2: List the names and ages of everyone (related or not related) living in your household, including you, other adults and children (If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.)

Place a ✓ in the column for all children enrolled in child care

List household members' ages and dates of birth

Place a ✓ in the next column if children in the household are foster children

If no case number is indicated in Part 1, list (by person) the amount and source of income received last month. List monthly earnings **before** deductions, monthly welfare, child support or alimony or any other income including retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's (VA) benefits, disability benefits, Worker's Compensation, unemployment, strike benefits, regular contributions of people who do not live in your household or any other income

Place a ✓ in the box for those listed who do not have income

If you are in the Military Housing Privatization Initiative or receive Combat Pay, do not include the housing allowance as income

Foster child payments received by the family from the placement agency are not considered income and do not have to be reported. The presence of a foster child in a family does not make all children in the household automatically eligible for free meals

If you are a farmer or self-employed, monthly income is gross farm or business income received in the month prior to application minus farm or business expenses. Gross wages from other jobs or income from other sources must also be listed as income. A loss from self-employment must be listed as zero income and cannot reduce other income

Part 3: Sign and date the form and list the last four digits of your Social Security Number or check the box indicating "I do not have a Social Security Number."

Help With Income To determine annualized income:

If paid every week, multiply the total gross income by 52.

If paid every two weeks, multiply the total gross income by 26.

If paid once a month, use the total gross monthly income.

If paid twice a month, multiply the total gross income by 24.

If paid once a year, use the total gross yearly income.

Return the completed application to the child care center.

Michigan Department of Education
Child and Adult Care Food Program

Where Healthy Eating Becomes a Habit
Program Information Sheet

This care center is a participant in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program. The CACFP provides cash reimbursement to child and adult day care centers for nutritious meals and helps children and adults develop and maintain healthy eating habits. The CACFP is administered by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program you can be assured each participant is getting balanced, nutritious meals and developing/maintaining healthy lifelong eating habits. Proper nutrition during throughout life ensures fewer educational and physical problems later in life.

As a participant in the CACFP, your care center receives reimbursement for serving nutritious meals and snacks. Meals and snacks must meet the USDA meal pattern requirements listed below (Child Meal Pattern).*

Breakfast	Lunch and Supper	Snack (serve 2 different food items from the 5 food component groups below)
Milk Fruit, Vegetable, or a combination of both Grain	Milk Meat or Meat Alternate Vegetable Fruit (or second Vegetable) Grain	Milk Meat or Meat Alternate Vegetable Fruit Grain

**Children less than one year old and Adults Day Services: Foods in the infant and adult meal pattern vary. Please request the applicable infant or adult meal pattern requirements from our center.*

MDE is required to verify the enrollment, attendance and meals/snacks typically consumed by children while they are in care. MDE staff may contact you regarding your child's participation in our day care center.

If you have any questions about the Child and Adult Care Food Program, please contact:

Early Learning Center FSU
1349 Cramer Circle BIS 101
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-591-2390

or

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Michigan Department of Education
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-241-5353

Household Income Eligibility Statement – Child Care Institutions

Part 1 – Households Receiving Food Assistance Program (FAP), Family Independence Program (FIP), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

If any member of your household receives FAP, FIP, or FDPIR, provide the name and case number for the person who receives the benefits.

Name: _____ Case Number: _____

Part 2 – Household Information

First and Last Names of All Household Members, Related and Unrelated	Enrolled for Child Care (x)	Age	Birth Date	Foster Child (x)	Amount of Earnings from Work (before deductions)	How Often? (x)		Amount of Welfare, Child Support, or Alimony	How Often? (x)		Amount of All Other Income (Indicate source and amount)	How Often? (x)		Mark if No Income (x)
						Annually	Monthly		Annually	Monthly		Annually	Monthly	

Part 3 – All Households: Signature and Last Four (4) Digits of Adult Social Security Number (Adult household member MUST sign and date)

I certify that all information on this form is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the center or day care home will receive federal funds based on the information I give. I understand that CACFP officials may verify the information. I understand that if I purposely give false information, the participant receiving meals may lose the meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Last four digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX-____ I do not have a Social Security Number

For Institution Use Only:

For Institution Use Only	
Total Household Members: _____ Institution Official Signature: _____	Total Income: \$ _____ Approval Date: _____
For Institution Use Only _____ Annually _____ Bi-Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Weekly _____ 2x Month	
APPROVED CATEGORY Categorical Eligibility (A/Free): Foster FIP FAP FDPIR Other Household Children: A (Free) B (Reduced) C (Paid)	

This form is valid for 12 months from the date of institution signature. Approval date and institution signature are required.

Participant Enrollment Form

Instructions:

1. List full name of participant enrolled in care
2. Circle the typical days each participant is in care
3. List times each participant is in care
4. Circle the meals and snacks each participant typically receives while in care
5. Select the ethnicity of each participant using the following codes: H = Hispanic or Latino, N = Not Hispanic or Latino*
6. Select one or more racial designations of each participant using the following codes: A/I = American Indian or Alaskan Native, A = Asian, B = Black or African American, H/PI = Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, W = White*
7. Sign and date the form and return to your care center

Participant's First and Last Name	Typical Days in Care (circle all that apply)	List Times in Care	Meals/Snacks Received (circle all that apply)	Ethnicity	Race
	Mon Tues Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun		Breakfast AM Snack Lunch PM Snack Supper Evening Snack		
	Mon Tues Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun		Breakfast AM Snack Lunch PM Snack Supper Evening Snack		
	Mon Tues Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun		Breakfast AM Snack Lunch PM Snack Supper Evening Snack		
	Mon Tues Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun		Breakfast AM Snack Lunch PM Snack Supper Evening Snack		

* This information is voluntary. This will assist us in assuring the Child and Adult Care Food Program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Adult/Parent/Guardian's Address

Adult/Parent/Guardian's Phone Number

Signature of Adult/Parent/Guardian

Date Signed

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) (http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) online, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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; (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.