



23-24 Figuring Income for Online Application

REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

- Report all amounts as GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report income in whole dollars, no cents.
- Gross income is the total income received before taxes. 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 enter “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.

Child Income

Report the combined gross income and frequency for ALL children in your household. Only count foster children’s income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household. It is optional for the household to list foster children living with them as part of the household. See Sources of Income for Children chart below.

- Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid DIRECTLY to your children. Many households do not have child income.

Sources of Income for Children	
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earnings from work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disability Payments ○ Survivor’s Benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits. • A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives social security benefits.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from persons outside the household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from any other source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child receives income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust.

Adult Income

List All Other Household member’s gross income and frequency 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. Do not include any students listed in the student section. See Sources of Income for Adults chart below.

Sources of Income for Adults		
Earnings from Work	Public Assistance/Alimony/ Child Support*	Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salary, wages, cash bonuses • Net Income from Self Employment (farm or business) <p>If you are in the U. S. Military:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) • Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment benefits • Worker’s compensation • Supplemental Security Income (SSI) • Cash assistance from State or local government • Alimony payments • Child support payments • Veteran’s benefits • Strike benefits <p>*Do not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits not listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments.</p> <p>Informal but regular payments should be reported as “other” income.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) • Private pensions or disability benefits • Regular income from trusts or estates • Annuities • Investment income • Earned interest • Rental income • Regular cash payments from outside household

SELF-EMPLOYED

What if I am self-employed?

If you are 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.

Income from Self Employment: Self-employed persons may use income tax records for the preceding calendar year as a base to project the current year's net income, unless the current monthly income provides a more accurate measure. Report income derived from the business venture less operating costs incurred in the generation of that income. Deductions for personal expenses such as interest on home payments, medical expenses, and other similar non-business deductions are not allowed in reducing gross business income. Additional income from other kinds of employment must be treated as separate and apart from the income generated or lost from your business venture. For example, if you operated a business at a net loss, but held additional employment for which a salary was received, the income for purposes of applying for reduced price or free meals would be the income from the salary only. The loss from the business cannot be deducted from a positive income earned in other employment. For purposes of this application, it is not possible to report a negative income from any business venture. The least income possible is zero (no income). The necessary information for arriving at allowable income from private business operation may be taken from your most recent U.S. Individual Income Tax Return - Form 1040, Schedule 1. Add together the amounts reported on the following lines:

Schedule 1, Line 3	\$ _____	Business Income or (Loss)
1040, Line 7	\$ _____	Capital Gain or (Loss)
Schedule 1, Line 4	\$ _____	Other Gains or (Losses)
Schedule 1, Line 5	\$ _____	Rental real estate, royalties, partnerships, S corporations, trusts, etc.
Schedule 1, Line 6	\$ _____	Farm Income or (Loss)
TOTAL	\$ _____	Gross Annual Income Before Any Deductions.
Computed Monthly Income	\$ _____	Gross Annual Income ÷ 12 = Computed Monthly Income

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, 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 Food Assistance (FA) Temporary Assistance for Families (TAF) 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.

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/ad-3027.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

Only use this address if you are filing a complaint of discrimination.

(2) fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email:

program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.