



# Northwood Local Schools

Home of the Rangers

"Excellence in Education"

Board of Education

700 Lemoyne Road

Northwood, Ohio 43619

419-691-3888

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. The Northwood Local School offers healthy meals each school day. Breakfast costs \$ 0.00 and lunch costs \$ 3.50JH/HS & 3.25 Elem. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals.** Reduced price is \$0.00 for breakfast and \$.40 cents for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits and detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. **Who can receive free or reduced-price meals?** All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Ohio Works First (OWF); foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court; children participating in their school's Head Start program; and children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals. Also, your children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household's income is within the federal income eligibility guidelines limits.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES 2025-2026			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$28,953	\$2,413	\$557
2	39,128	3,261	753
3	49,303	4,109	949
4	59,478	4,957	1,144
5	69,653	5,805	1,340
6	79,828	6,653	1,536
7	90,003	7,501	1,731
8	100,178	8,349	1,927
Each additional Person:	10,175	848	196

2. **How do I know if my children qualify as homeless, migrant or runaway?** If members of your household lack a permanent address; are staying together in a shelter, hotel or other temporary housing arrangement; relocate on a seasonal basis or; children live with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household then the children may qualify as homeless, migrant or runaway. If you have not been told your children will receive free meals, please call or email **Northwood Local School** at [ebires@northwoodschoools.org](mailto:ebires@northwoodschoools.org) or 419-691-3888 ext. 2004 to see if they qualify.
3. **Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Use *one free and reduced-price school meal application for all students in your household*. We cannot approve an application that is not complete. Please submit all required information. **Return the completed application to Emilia Bires at 700 Lemoyne Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619 or 419-691-3888 ext. 2004**
4. **Should I complete an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved already for free meals?** No, but please read the letter carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from the eligibility notification, contact **Emilia Bires at 700 Lemoyne Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619 or 419-691-3888 ext. 2004**
5. **Can I apply online?** Yes. If possible, you are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application. The online application requirements are the same and will request the same information as the paper application. Visit [www.northwoodschoools.org](http://www.northwoodschoools.org) to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact **Emilia Bires at 700 Lemoyne Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619 or 419-691-3888 ext. 2004** with any questions about the online application.
6. **My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to complete another application?** Yes. Your child's application is valid for that school year and for the start of this school year. You are required to submit a new application unless the school notified you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

**Privacy Act Statement: This explains how we will use the information you give us.**

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You are not required to provide information, but if information is not provided, the state agency cannot approve your child for free or reduced-price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of 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), Ohio Works First (OWF) case number or other 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.

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**USDA Nondiscrimination Statement**

In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

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 state or local agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) 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, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. **Fax:** (202) 690-7442; or
3. **Email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*

# 2025-2026 FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATION

## Part 1. ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

Names of all household members (First, Middle Initial, Last)	Name of school and grade level for each child/or indicate "NA" if child is not in school.  School _____ Grade _____	Check if a foster child (legal responsibility of welfare agency or court) *If all children listed below are foster children, skip to Part 5 to sign this form.	Check if No Income
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Part 2. BENEFITS:** If any member of your household receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Ohio Works First (OWF) benefits, provide the name and 7-digit case number for the person who receives benefits and skip to Part 5. If no one receives these benefits, skip to Part 3.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ 7-DIGIT CASE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3. If any child you are applying for is homeless, migrant, or a runaway check the appropriate box and call Emilia Bires at 700 Lemoyne Road, Northwood, Ohio 43619 or 419-691-3888 ext. 2004**

Homeless ☐ Migrant ☐ Runaway ☐

**Part 4. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD GROSS INCOME (before deductions).** List all income on the same line as the person who receives it. Check the box for how often it is received. Record each income only once.

1. NAME (List all household members with income)	2. GROSS INCOME AND HOW OFTEN IT WAS RECEIVED															
	Earnings from work before deductions	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	Twice Monthly	Monthly	Welfare, child support, alimony	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	Twice Monthly	Monthly	Pensions, retirement, Social Security, SSI, VA benefits	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	Twice Monthly	Monthly	All Other Income (indicate frequency, such as "weekly" "monthly" "quarterly" "annually")
(Example) Jane Smith	\$200	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00/quarterly
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ /
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ /
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ /
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ /
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ /

**Part 5. SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL FEE WAIVER ADULT CONSENT:** Your child(ren) may qualify for a waiver of their school instructional fees. Your permission is required to share your meal application information with school officials to determine if your child(ren) qualifies for a fee waiver. Answering this question will not change whether your children will receive free or reduced-price meals.

Please check a box: ☐ Yes, I agree to have my meal application used to determine if my child(ren) qualifies for a fee waiver.

☐ No, I do not agree to have my meal application used to determine if my child(ren) qualifies for a fee waiver.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 6. SIGNATURE AND LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (ADULT MUST SIGN)

An adult household member must sign the application. If Part 4 is completed, the adult signing the form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the "I do not have a Social Security Number" box. (See Privacy Act Statement on the back of this page.)

I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the school will receive federal funds based on the information I give. I understand that school officials may verify (check) the information. I understand that deliberate misrepresentation of the information may cause my children to lose meal benefits and I may be subject to prosecution under state and federal statutes.

Sign here: X \_\_\_\_\_ Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Last four digits of your Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ I do not have a Social Security Number

**Part 7. Children's ethnic and racial identities:** We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

Choose one ethnicity:

- ☐ Hispanic/Latino  
☐ Not Hispanic/Latino

Choose one or more (regardless of ethnicity):

- ☐ Asian ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Black or African American  
☐ White ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

## Do not complete this section. Intended for school use only.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice A Month x 24, Monthly x 12

Total Income: \_\_\_\_\_ Per: Week, Every 2 Weeks, Twice per Month, Month, Year Household size: \_\_\_\_\_

Categorical Eligibility: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Withdrawn: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility: Free \_\_\_\_\_ Reduced \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Determining/Approval Official's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirming Official's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up Official's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If selected for Verification, Date Verification Notice Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Response Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Notice Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Results Sent: \_\_\_\_\_

Verification Result: No Change \_\_\_\_\_ Free to Reduced Price \_\_\_\_\_ Free to Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Reduced Price to Free \_\_\_\_\_ Reduced Price to Paid \_\_\_\_\_