

2021-2022 Seamless Summer Option & Meal Applications or Alternate Income Data Collection Methods

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2021-2022 Seamless Summer Option

- USDA waiver for National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO) to operate through June 30, 2022
- Free breakfast and lunch available for ALL students
- Free afterschool snacks available for students attending an afterschool program



Income Data Collection Methods

- Meal Applications
- Alternate Income Forms
- Student Information System – Q



Meal Applications

- Pros
 - Families are familiar with form
 - For families that qualify – ancillary benefits: PEBT, discounted utilities and test fees.
- Cons
 - Requires more detailed and confidential information
 - FR% decreased - October 2019: 46.63% vs October 2020: 41.82%
 - Free meals – may mean minimal motivation to submit applications
 - Applications are often incomplete, delaying processing



Alternate Income Forms

- Pros
 - Minimum data needed. No SSN.
 - Data can be collected via phone.
 - For families that qualify – ancillary benefits: PEBT, discounted utilities and test fees.
- Cons
 - Potentially no 30 day carryover into 22-23 SY of meal benefit status (TBD)



Student Information System - Q

- Pros
 - Less paperwork - collect as part of online registration/re-enrollment process
 - Drop down menus with # of household members and income ranges
 - ALL GUSD students are required to complete this process
- Cons
 - Privacy concerns – will have an opt out option



Recommendation

- Collect income data via Q's annual registration/re-enrollment process
- Income data collection page from Q

We need your help. The information you provide is **confidential**. It is used for the purpose of allocating state funds to support student learning at your child's school. Thank you for your help!

Select Total Household Size:

Based on your household size of:

Select the appropriate monthly household income range:

Who should I include in "Household Size"?

You must include yourself and all people living in your household, related or not (for example, children, grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, who do not share income with your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.

What is included in "Total Monthly Household Income"? Total Monthly Household Income includes all of the following:

- **Gross earnings from work:** Use your gross income, not your take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. This information can be found on your pay stub or if you are unsure, your supervisor can provide this information. Net income should only be reported for self-owned business, farm, or rental income.
- **Welfare, Child Support, Alimony:** Include the amount each person living in your household receives from these sources, including any amount received from CalWORKS.
- **Pensions, Retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), and disability benefits:** Include the amount each person living in your household receives from these sources.
- **All Other Income:** Include worker's compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household, and any other income received. Do not include income from CalFresh, WIC, federal education benefits and foster payments received by your household.
- **Military Housing Allowances and Combat Pay:** Include off-base housing allowances. Do not include Military Privatized Housing Initiative or combat pay.
- **Overtime Pay:** Include overtime pay ONLY if you receive it on a regular basis.

If your income changes, include the wages/salary that you regularly receive. For example, if you normally make \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and made \$900, put down that you made \$1,000 per month. Only include overtime pay if you receive it on a regular basis. If you have lost your job or had your hours or wages reduced, enter zero or your current reduced income.

For additional information on Household Size and Gross Household Income, please see the Eligibility Manual for School Meals on the U.S. Department of Agriculture Guidance and Resource Web page at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/guidance/default.htm>.



Income Data Collection Page from Q

- Two drop down menus - # in household and income range

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Select Total Household Size:

Based on your household size of:

Select the appropriate monthly household income range:

- Optional: Opt Out

Opt Out? :



Questions?