Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Monroe Central School Corporation offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.25; lunch costs \$2.15 Elementary \$2.30 JH/HS. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

- 1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?
 - All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP (Food Stamps) or TANF, are eligible for free meals.
 - Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
 - Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
 - Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
 - 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.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2022-23						
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly			
1	25,142	2,096	484			
2	33,874	2,823	652			
3	42,606	3,551	820			
4	51,338	4,279	988			
5	60,070	5,006	1,156			
6	68,802	5,734	1,324			
7	77,534	6,462	1,492			
8	86,266	7,189	1,659			
Each additional						
person:	+8,732	+728	+168			

- 2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail patsywinans@monroecentral.org.
- 3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Patsy Winans 1918 N 1000 W Parker City, IN 47368.
- 4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact Patsy Winans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or patsywinans@monroecentral.org immediately.

- 5. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year through 9-21-2022. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price of meals.
- 6. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF MY CHILDREN RECEIVED FREE OR REDUCED MEALS AT THEIR PREVIOUS SCHOOL? If it is the beginning of the school year and you have not been notified that your children will receive free or reduced meals for the upcoming year, you will need to fill out an application. If your children transferred during the school year and they were receiving free or reduced meals at the previous school, contact **Patsy Wnans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or** patsywinans@monroecentral.org immediately.
- 7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
- 8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
- 9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: Patsy Winans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or patsywinans@monroecentral.org.
- 11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
- 12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
- 14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
- 15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact Patsy Winans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or patsywinans@monroecentral.org to receive a second application.
- 16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for SNAP (Food Stamp) or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-800-403-0864**.

If you have other questions or need help, call Patsy Winans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or patsywinans@monroecentral.org

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, even if your children attend more than one school in Monroe Central School Corporation. The application must be filled out completely to certify your children for free or reduced price school meals. Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact Patsy Winans 765-468-6868 ext 2204 or patsywinans@monroecentral.org.

STEP 1: LIST ALL INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12 IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Tell us how many infants, children, and school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

Who should I list here? When filling out this section, please include ALL members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under AND are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a foster arrangement, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending Monroe Central School Corporation regardless of age.

A) List each child's name. Print each child's name. Use one line of the application for each child. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper with all required information for the additional children.

B) Is the child a student at
Monroe Central School
Corporation? Mark 'Yes' or 'No'
under the column titled "Student"
to tell us which children attend
Monroe Central School
CorporationIf you marked 'Yes,'
write the name of the school
building, birthdate, and grade
level of the student in the 'Grade'
column to the right.

Is the child living with parent or caretaker relative? Mark 'Yes' or 'No' next to each child.

C) Do you have any foster children? If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. If you are ONLY applying for foster children, after finishing STEP 1, go to STEP 4.

Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to step 3.

D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway? If you believe any child listed in this section meets this description, mark the "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and complete all steps of the application.

PLEASE USE A PEN (NOT A PENCIL) WHEN FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION AND DO YOUR BEST TO PRINT CLEARLY.

STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SNAP or TANF?

If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:
- Leave STEP 2 blank and go to STEP 3.

- B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:
- Write a case number for SNAP or TANF. You only need to provide one case number. If you participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact: 1-800-403-0864.
- Go to STEP 4.

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

How do I report my income?

Sources of In	come for Children
Sources of Child Income	Example(s)
- Earnings from work	- A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages
- Social Security - Disability Payments	- A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits
- Survivor's Benefits	- A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits
-Income from person outside the household	- A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money
-Income from any other source	- A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

• Use the charts titled "Sources of Income for Adults" and "Sources of Income for Children," located below to determine if your household has income to report.

Sources of Income for Adults						
Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	Pensions / Retirement / All Other Income				
- Salary, wages, cash bonuses - Net income from self-employment (farm or business) If you are in the U.S. Military: - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) - Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	Ctate or lead government	- 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				

- Report all amounts in GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
 - O Gross income is the total income received before taxes

- O 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 write '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.

3.A. REPORT INCOME EARNED BY CHILDREN

A) Report all income earned or received by children. Report the combined gross income for ALL children listed in STEP 1 in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

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

3.B REPORT INCOME EARNED BY ADULTS

Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, please include ALL adult members in your household 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:
- o People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household.
- o Infants, Children and students already listed in STEP 1.
- B) List adult household members' names. Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Do not list any household members you listed in STEP 1. If a child listed in STEP 1 has income, follow the instructions in STEP 3, part A.
- **C)** Report earnings from work. Report all income from work in the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income.
- What if I am 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.
- D) Report income from public assistance/child support/alimony. Report all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. 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. Informal but regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the next part.

- E) Report income from pensions/retirement/all other income. Report all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/ All Other Income" field on the application.
- F) Report total household size. Enter the total number of household members in the field "Total Household Members (Children and Adults)." This number MUST be equal to the number of household members listed in STEP 1 and STEP 3. If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household affects your eligibility for free and reduced price meals.
- G) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number. An adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE

All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.

A) Print and sign your name. Print the
name of the adult signing the application
and that person signs in the box "Signature
of adult."

B) Provide your contact information. Write your current address in the fields provided if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced price school meals. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.

C) Mail Completed Form to:

Monroe Central School Corporation ATTN: Patsy Winans 1918 N 1000 W Parker City, IN 47368 D) Share children's racial and ethnic identities (optional). On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children's race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

STEP 5: OTHER BENEFITS - OPTIONAL

The following sections are optional and do not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

A) Textbook Assistance

If you want to receive textbook assistance, check 'Yes' and then read, sign, and date the section to the right. If you do not want to receive textbook assistance, check 'No'.

B) Hoosier Healthwise Disclosure

If you want to share your child's free/reduced eligibility in order to qualify for free or low-cost health insurance under Medicaid or Hoosier Healthwise, sign and date this section.

2022-2023 Household Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals Complete one application per household. Please use a pen (not a pencil).

STEP1 List ALL infan	its, chilaren, and students up to	grau	e 12 who are members of your househo	na (ii more spa	aces are required for addition			Japer)
Definition of Household Child	d's First Name	MI	Child's Last Name	Student? Yes No	Only Students: Name of School Building	Only Students: Only Stude Birthdate Grade	Living with parent or caretaker relative? Yes No	Homeless, Foster Migrant, Child Runaway
Member: "Anyone who is living with you and shares					3			
income and expenses, even if not related."								
Children in Foster care and children who meet the definition of Homeless,								
Migrant or Runaway are eligible for free meals. Read How to Apply for Free and								
Reduced Price School Meals for more information.	·							
OTED 2 B	and Marchan /instruling very		ntly participate in one or more of the fo		tance programs: SNAP (Food Stamp) or		
STEP 2 Do any Househ	iola Members (including you) c	urrei	ntly participate in one or more of the fo	nowing assis	stance programs. SNAF (
If NO	O > Go to STEP 3.	If	YES > Write a case number here then go to STER	9 4 (Do not comp	olete STEP 3)	02.700	ite only one case nur	2 20 202
STEP 3 Report Incom	ne for ALL Household Membe	ers (S	Skip this step if you answered Yes to STEP	2)				
				,		How often?		
Are you unsure what Som		receiv	e income. Please include the TOTAL income receiv	ed by all childrer	Child income We	eekly Every 2 Wks 2x Mor	ath Monthly	
Please read How	in household listed in STEP 1 here. B. All Adult Household Members (including yourself) List all Household Members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total (gross) income							
School Meals for befo	all Household Members not listed in STEF ore any taxes or deductions for e mising) that there is no income to report.	ach so	luding yourself) even if they do not receive incom urce in whole dollars (no cents) only. If they do not r	e. For each Hous eceive income fro	senold Member listed, if they do re om any source, write '0'. If you en	ter '0' or leave any fie	lds blank, you are	certifying
more unemand	e of Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Е	How often?	Public Assistance Child Support/Ali		Pensions/Retire	ement	ow often? 2 Wks 2x Month Monthly
Income for Children section will help		\$	0 0 0	\$	0 0 0 0	\$		00
you with the Child Income question.		\$	0000	\$	0 0 0 0	\$		
The Sources of		\$	0000	\$	0000	\$		
Income for Adults section will help you with the All Adult		\$	0000	\$	0000	\$		
Household Members								
section.		\$		\$		<u> </u>		
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section.	al Household Members ildren and Adults)		ast Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of rimary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Mem	\$ X X	x x x	\$ Check if no SSN		
section. Tota (Chi	ildren and Adults)	P				A Section Assessment	for Textboo	k Benefits
section. Tota (Chi STEP 4 Contact info	ormation and adult signature	P . Mai	rimary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Mem I Completed Form To: 1918 N 100 understand that this information is given in connection with t	00 W Park	er City, IN 47368	Turn		
section. Tota (Chi STEP 4 Contact info	ormation and adult signature	P . Mai	rimary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Mem I Completed Form To: 1918 N 100 understand that this information is given in connection with t	00 W Park	er City, IN 47368	Turn		
section. Tota (Chi STEP 4 Contact info	ormation and adult signature this application is true and that all income is represent benefits, and I may be prosecuted under apple.	Mai orted. I u	rimary Wage Earner or Other Adult Household Mem I Completed Form To: 1918 N 100 understand that this information is given in connection with t	00 W Park	er City, IN 47368	Turn		

	does not need to be completed to				
Do you want to receive Textbook Assistance ?	certify that I am the parent/guardian of the chi nformation on this application for textbook assi nformation will be shared with the Indiana Fam solely for purposes of complying with 45 C.F.R. Signature of adult completing the form	istance. I give up my right nily and Social Services A	of confidentiality for this purpose of	only. This application	School Use On Approved Denied Not Applica
This application information may be shared with the Family ar Healthwise. If you want the application information shared for information for this purpose.	nd Social Services Administration for the purpo	se of identifying children the parent/guardian of th	e child(ren) for whom application i For information abou	st health insurance under Medis s being made. I authorize the re t Hoosier Healthwise health in all 1-800-889-9949.	elease of
Signature of adult completing the form	Today's date				
OPTIONAL Children's Racial and Ethnic Id	lentities		fully coming our community Doon	ending to this section is entired.	and door
We are required to ask for information about your children's race not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals			e fully serving our community. Respo	onding to this section is optional	and does
Ethnicity (check one):	Race (check on				
Hispanic or Latino	☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native	_	vaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
Not Hispanic or Latino	Asian	☐ White			
The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the	☐ Black or African American		be made available in languages oth		
child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SI Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult does not have a social security number. We will use your information reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutril determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program review look into violations of program rules. In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department opolicies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the bar gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal	n Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other household member signing the application stion to determine if your child is eligible for free of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY ion programs to help them evaluate, fund, or ws, and law enforcement officials to help them of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and lasis of race, color, national origin, sex (including	Discrimination Complaint at: https://www.usda.gov/17Fax2Mail.pdf , from any letter must contain the co discriminatory action in sund date of an alleged civer mail: U.S. Department of	nation complaint, a Complainant she Form which can be obtained online sites/default/files/documents/USDA-v USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9 mplainant's name, address, telephoufficient detail to inform the Assistan vil rights violation. The completed AE Agriculture, Office of the Assistant 9250-9410; or fax: (833) 256-1665 on all opportunity provider.	OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0992, or by writing a letter addres ne number, and a written descript Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCF 0-3027 form or letter must be sub Secretary for Civil Rights. 1400 Ir	0508-0002-508-11-2 sed to USDA. The vition of the alleged R) about the nature omitted to USDA by: ndependence Avenu
	FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY -	DO NOT WRITE BELOW VERSION to YEARLY:	THIS LINE		
WEEKLY X 52	EVERY 2 WEEKS X 26		ONTH X 24	MONTHLY X 12	_
Income Eligibility: Total Household Size:To OR Categorical Eligibility: □ Food Stamps/TANF Eligibility Determination: □ Approved Free □ Approved Free □ Income Too High □ Income Type of Eligibility Notification Provided (if denied, no Signature of Determining Official:	otal Income:\$ per:		Month □ Monthly □ Yearly Date Withdrawn:		
Confirmation Review Official:		Direct Verified? Yes □ No	D [
Date Verification Notice Sent: Date Response Due from Households: Date Second Notice Sent (or N/A):	Approval Based On: □ Food Stamps / TANF Case Number □ Household Size and Income	Verification Results: ☐ No Change ☐ Free to Reduced ☐ Free to Paid ☐ Reduced to Free	Reason for Change: Income: Household Size: Change in Food Stamps /TANF Did not respond	Date Notice of Change Sent: Date Change Made:	_
Request for Appeal Date Hearing Requested: Hearing Decision:	□ Other Verifying Official's Signature:	□ Reduced to Paid	□ Other: Date:		