

CHILD NUTRITION ELIGIBILITY GUIDE

FREE ELIGIBILITY			REDUCED ELIGIBILITY
Direct Certification	Categorical Eligibility	Free Application	Reduced Application
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) ^{1,2} - <i>Automated Data Matching Method</i>	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - <i>Indicated Case number on the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application or OTDA Eligibility Letter Method² (new)</i>	Free and reduced price meal applicant approved to receive free school meals/milk determined by the income indicated on the application was <i>at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.</i>	Free and reduced price meal applicant approved to receive reduced price school meals/milk determined by the income indicated on the application was <i>between 130 and at or below 185 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.</i>
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) ^{1,2} - <i>Automated Data Matching Method</i>	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) - <i>Indicated Case number on the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application</i>		
Medicaid recipients at or below 133 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines, determined by the Medicaid Program ^{1,2} - <i>Automated Data Matching Method</i>	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) <i>OTDA Eligibility Letter Method² (new), Re-Certification Letter or Indicated Case number on the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application</i>		
¹ Data Matching Systems must be able to match the student by indicating the corresponding Assistance Program.	Homeless - <i>list obtained from the McKinney Vento liaison (visit www.nysteachs.org for a list of homeless liaisons)</i>		
² EXTENSION OF CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY means that all children in a household with at least one child or household member who receives benefits from an Assistance Program are categorically eligible for free meals. Any one child's or household member's receipt of benefits from an Assistance Program extends free school meal eligibility to all children who are members of the household.	Runaway - <i>list obtained from the runaway provider.</i>		
	Migrant - <i>list obtained from the migrant coordinator.</i>		
	Foster - <i>list obtained from the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), State and local welfare agency or Indicated on the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application.</i>		
	Head Start and Even Start - <i>enrollment records.</i>		

The above chart indicates how Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) data is determined.