

Meal Benefits Application (Portal)

Last Modified on 07/23/2020 4:52 pm CDT

PATH: *Campus Portal: Family > Applications/Forms > Meal Benefits Application*


PATH: *Campus Parent: More > Meal Benefits Application*

The Meal Benefits Application allows parents/guardians to electronically submit Meal Benefits Applications to their district.

In order to complete the Meal Benefits Application, the application signer must complete the following steps:

Applications/Forms

Meal Benefits Application [click here to start the application process.](#)

Reports on this page require the Adobe Acrobat Reader (free). 

Accessing the Meal Benefits Application

Step 1. Register PIN Number/Electronic Signature

In order to submit a legally-binding application to the district, an E-Signature PIN must be established. If you already have a PIN, skip to Step 2. The E-Signature PIN allows users to submit an electronic signature along with the application which is treated the same legally as a signature made on the paper application.

E-Signature ✕

You do not have an E-Signature PIN.

The **[Insert DISTRICT NAME HERE]** has adopted the use of electronic signatures for some documents. By registering and creating your electronic signature PIN you will be able to apply your signature electronically to some documents the district publishes that require your signature. Registration is easy to complete and takes less than 5 minutes.

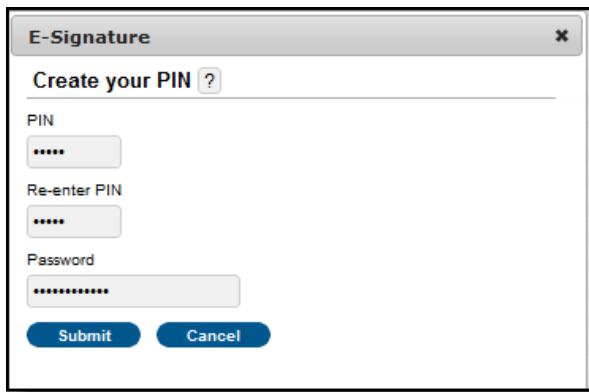
Once registered, documents or applications that accept an E-signature may also give you the option to not use your electronic signature and instead print the document, sign, and submit the paper form. Not all documents or applications will require a PIN.

Would you like to create your E-Signature PIN now?

Notification of No E-Signature PIN Established

To create an E-Signature PIN, click the **Yes** button. The Create your PIN editor will display.

To create a PIN, enter the **PIN**, **Re-enter the PIN**, enter your current Campus account **Password** and select the **Submit** button. Your PIN is now saved within Campus and available for use with any documents or forms which require a PIN for signature or verification. To change you PIN, go to the [Account Management](#) tool.



The screenshot shows a window titled "E-Signature" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title bar, the text "Create your PIN" is followed by a question mark icon. There are three input fields: "PIN" with five asterisks, "Re-enter PIN" with five asterisks, and "Password" with ten asterisks. At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

Creating an E-Signature PIN

Step 2. Review the Letter to Household

The application signer must review the Letter to Household prior to beginning the application process. This letter contains important information and guidance about the online Meal Benefits Application.

After you review or print the letter for reference, click the **Next** button to [review the application's instructions](#).

FRAM Administrators

Letter to Household information and instructions can be modified in the [Letter to Household template](#) within the Online Application Editor (FRAM > Letter Editor, Online Application Editor).

Meal Benefits Application ✕

Letter to Household
Instructions
Signer Confirmation
Household Members
Children
Gross Income
Review
Authorization
Submitted

Letter to Household contains important information you will need during the application process. You may print a PDF of this letter by selecting the print icon. Select 'Next' to continue or 'Quit' to stop.

Letter to Household

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. [Name of School] offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs [\$]; lunch costs [\$]. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is [\$] for breakfast and [\$] for lunch.

1. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. 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: [name, address, phone number]. If you would like to complete a paper application instead, you can print a paper application by

Quit
Next

Timeout
59:41

Reviewing the Letter to Household

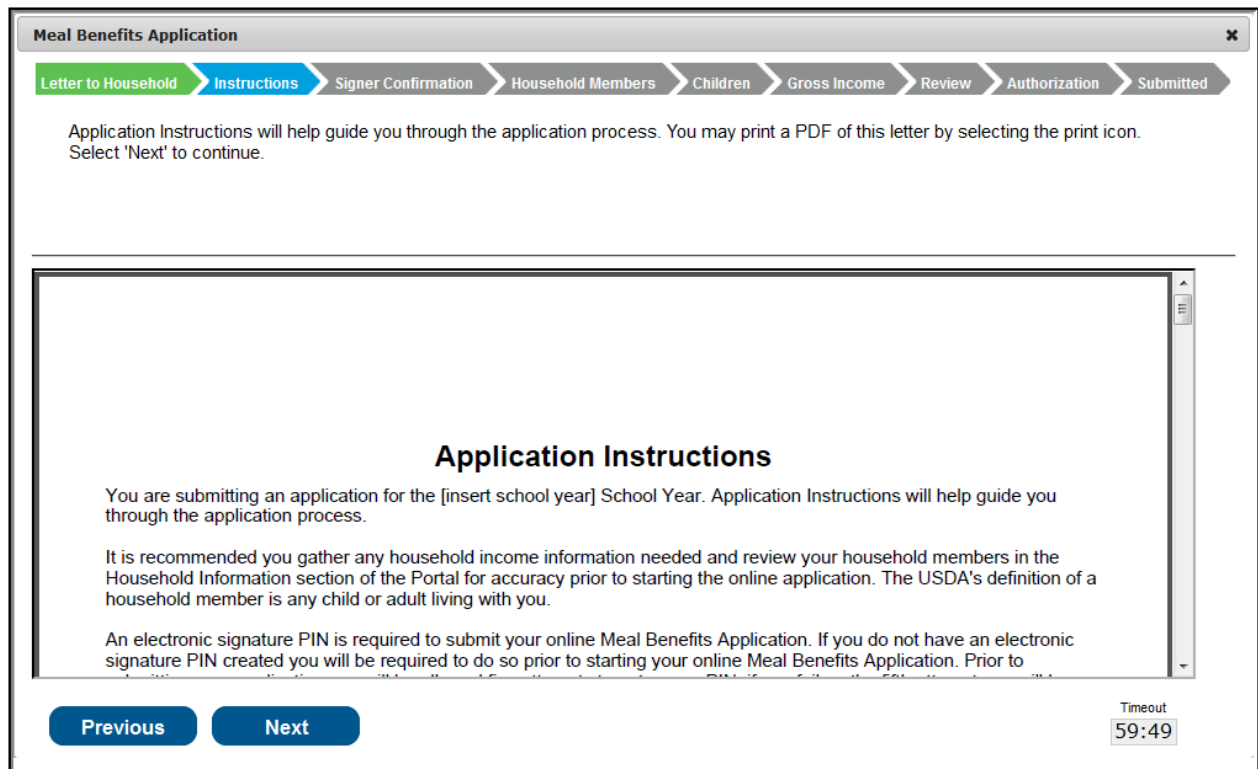
Step 3. Review Application Instructions

The application signer must also review the Application Instructions prior to beginning the application process. These instructions can also be printed and contain important information about the application process and submission.

After you review or print the Application Instructions for reference, click the **Next** button. The [Signer Confirmation screen](#) displays.

FRAM Administrators

Application Instructions information can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the Online Application Editor (FRAM > Letter Editor, Online Application Editor).



Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > **Instructions** > Signer Confirmation > Household Members > Children > Gross Income > Review > Authorization > Submitted

Application Instructions will help guide you through the application process. You may print a PDF of this letter by selecting the print icon. Select 'Next' to continue.

Application Instructions

You are submitting an application for the [insert school year] School Year. Application Instructions will help guide you through the application process.

It is recommended you gather any household income information needed and review your household members in the Household Information section of the Portal for accuracy prior to starting the online application. The USDA's definition of a household member is any child or adult living with you.

An electronic signature PIN is required to submit your online Meal Benefits Application. If you do not have an electronic signature PIN created you will be required to do so prior to starting your online Meal Benefits Application. Prior to

[Previous](#) [Next](#) Timeout
59:49

Reviewing the Application Instructions

Step 4. Review and Confirm Signer

Once both the Letter to Household and Application Instructions have been reviewed, the person completing the online application must confirm their identity as the application signer.

If the identity information is correct, select the **Next** button.

If the address shown is incorrect and your district has [Self Service](#) functionality enabled, you can updated it using the [Household Information](#) tool.

FRAM Administrators

Signer Confirmation instructions can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the Online Application Editor (FRAM > Letter Editor, Online Application Editor).

Meal Benefits Application ✕

Letter to Household
Instructions
Signer Confirmation
Household Members
Children
Gross Income
Review
Authorization
Submitted

Please review the application signer's name and household address below. Confirm you are the person signing this online application by selecting 'Next'. Select 'Quit' if you are not this person or if you do not wish to continue.

Smith, Jason you have been identified as the household member signing this Meal Benefits Application.

You are applying for meal benefits for all household members living at the address below. If the address is incorrect, please contact your child(ren)'s school to request a change.

Primary Address:
 123 Main Street
 Metro City, MN 55432

Quit
Previous
Next

Timeout
57:55

Verifying the Signer's Identity

Step 5. Confirm Household Members

The application signer must confirm all people living within their household.

Mark the checkbox next to the name of each person within your household. Once all members have been marked, select the **Next** button.

If a person is listed that should not be considered a household member, do not mark the checkbox next to their name. This does not remove them from the household within Campus, but does exclude them from the application.

In order to complete the remaining steps of the application process, it is critical Household members are identified.

FRAM Administrators

Household Members information can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the Online Application Editor.

Campus considers the Eligibility Effective date when populating the student's School. If there are overlapping enrollments within the same calendar year, Campus uses the school from the most recent enrollment.

✕
Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household
Instructions
Signer Confirmation
Household Members
Children
Gross Income
Review
Authorization
Submitted

Household Members are listed below. You must confirm each person living in your household by selecting the check box next to their name. If a person listed below is no longer living in your household, do not check the box next to their name. If there are persons missing from your household you will need to add them by selecting the 'Add Household Member' button. You are not allowed to edit existing household member information or uncheck the application signer. After you have identified and/or added household members select 'Next' to continue.

Name	Gender	DOB	School	Grade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Smith , James John</i> (Signer)	F			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith , Jane Marie	F			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith , John Anthony	M	01/01/1995	Senior High	12
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith , Susie Marie	F	04/01/2011		

If you need to add additional household members click here.

Add Household Member

Timeout
59:50

Previous

Next

Verifying Household Members

Adding a Household Member

If a household member does not appear in the list, you can manually add them. This often occurs when someone has just moved into the household or the person filling out the application does not have access to a specific family member within the Portal.

The manually added student household member must exist in Campus at the time the FRAM Processor processes the application. If the manually added student member does not exist within Campus, the application cannot be processed and must be suspended if the district cannot confirm the validity of the student member.

1. Click the **Add Household Member** button.

Result

The **Add Student/Non-Student Member** editor displays.

2. Select whether the person is a **Student** or **Non-Student** and click the **Save** button.

A Student is a household member who will be enrolled in the district during the school year.

A Non-Student is any household member who will not be enrolled in the district during the school year.

Result

The **Add Student/Non-Student Member** window displays.

3. Enter information about the household member in all required fields and select the **Save** icon. Required fields display with a red asterisk.

Result

The Household Members Confirmation screen displays. The added household member appears on the Household Members screen with the words (Manual Add) appearing after the person's name. To remove the person from the household, select the black X on the far right of the screen.

The School and Grade (and Student Number, if known) fields are important for application processing as the FRAM Processor uses these fields to better identify and match this student to records within Campus.

Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > Instructions > Signer Confirmation > **Household Members** > Children > Gross Income > Review > Authorization > Submitted

Household Members are listed below. You must confirm each person living in your household by selecting the check box next to their name. If a person listed below is no longer living in your household, do not check the box next to their name. If there are persons missing from your household you will need to add them by selecting the 'Add Household Member' button. You are not allowed to edit existing household member information or uncheck the application signer. After you have identified and/or added household members select 'Next' to continue.

Name	Gender	DOB	School	Grade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Jason A (Signer)	M			
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Amy Jo	F	10/27/2004	019 Westridge MS	06
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Barbara S	F			
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Samuel	M			
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Simon	M	12/02/2005	017 Shoemaker Elem	05
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Joe P (Manual Add)	M		006 Jefferson Elem	K0

If you need to add additional household members click here. [Add Household Member](#)

[Previous](#) [Next](#) Timeout 52:53

4. Once all household members have been identified, select the **Next** button.

Step 6. Indicate Meal Benefits

Once household members have been identified, the application signer is asked whether any household members receive SNAP, TANF or FDIPIR benefits.

FRAM Administrators

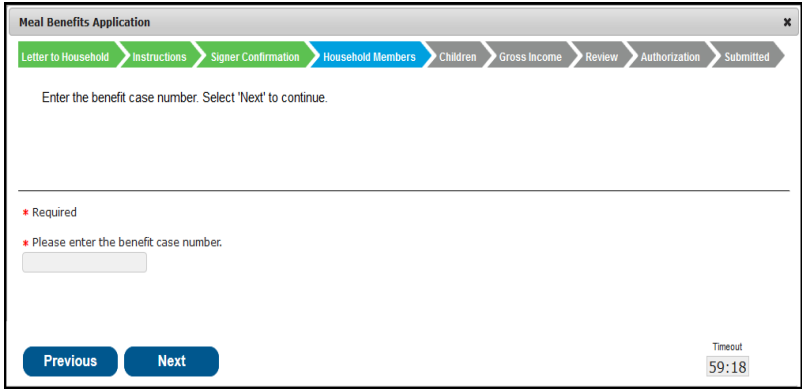
Acronyms for SNAP, TANF and FDIPIR are USDA-specific and can be changed to meet state-specific needs using the FRAM Preferences tool.

Meal Benefits

Do any household members receive benefits? (SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR)

No Yes

Identifying SNAP, TANF or FDIPIR Benefits

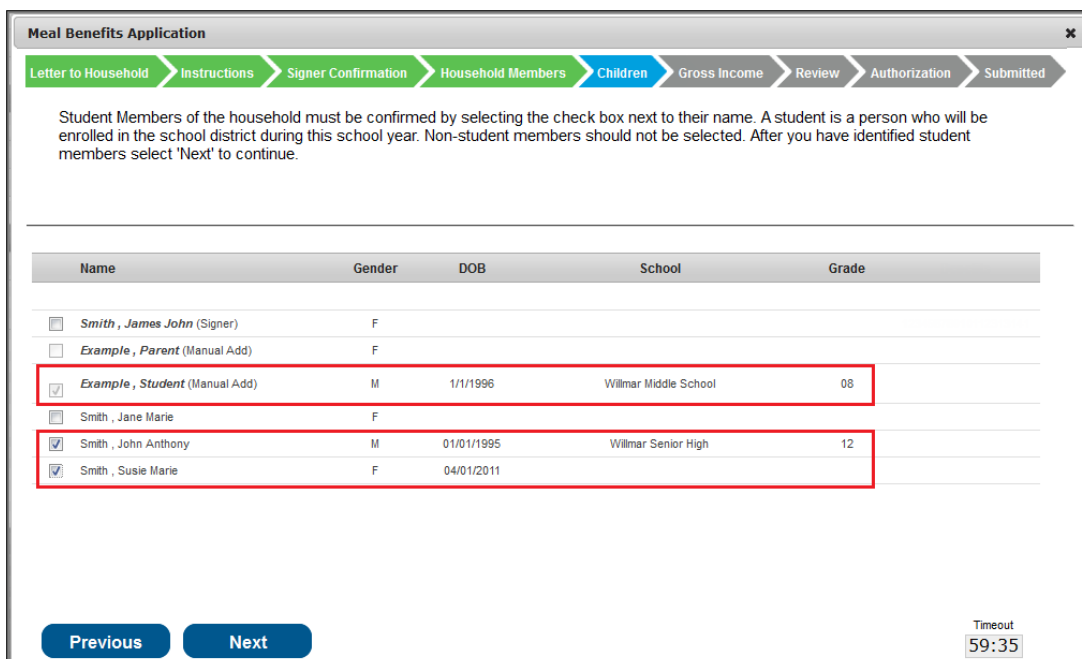
If household member(s)...	Then...
do NOT receive benefits	click No . You will be directed to the Children screen (see Step 7).
DO receive SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits	click Yes . Enter the benefit case number then click Next . 

Step 7. Confirm Child Household Members

Now that household members have been established, children in the household must be identified. Mark the checkbox next to the name of each child household member then click Next.

FRAM Administrators

Child Member information can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the Online Application Editor.

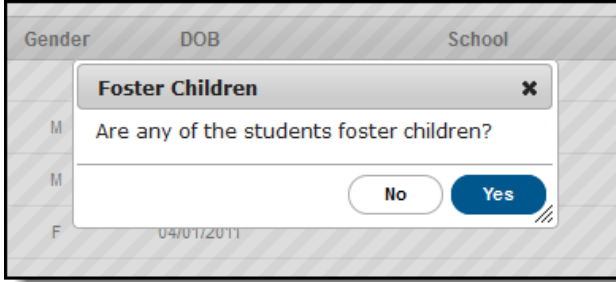


Student Members of the household must be confirmed by selecting the check box next to their name. A student is a person who will be enrolled in the school district during this school year. Non-student members should not be selected. After you have identified student members select 'Next' to continue.

Name	Gender	DOB	School	Grade
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, James John (Signer)	F			
<input type="checkbox"/> Example, Parent (Manual Add)	F			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Example, Student (Manual Add)	M	1/1/1996	Willmar Middle School	08
<input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Jane Marie	F			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, John Anthony	M	01/01/1995	Willmar Senior High	12
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Susie Marie	F	04/01/2011		

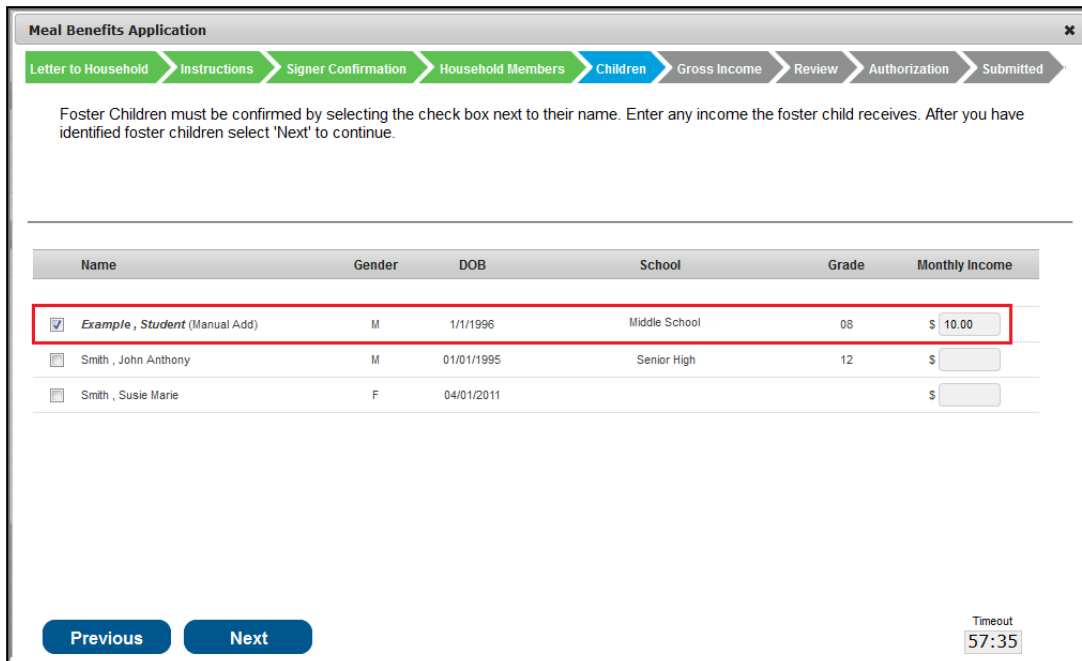
Step 8. Indicate Foster Children

Once student household members have been identified, the application signer must indicate whether any of the student household members are foster children.



Identifying Student Foster Children

If a household member...	Then...
IS a foster child	click Yes . Mark the checkbox next to the name of each student household member that is a foster child, enter their Monthly Income and select the Next button.
is NOT a foster child	click No and go to step 9.



Selecting Foster Children

Step 9. Indicate Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, and Head Start Children

Once Foster students are identified, the application signer must indicate whether any of the student household members are Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, or Head Start children.

Prompt for Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, or Head Start Children

If a household member...	Then...
IS a Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, or Head Start child	<p>click Yes. Select one of the following options from the Student Indicator dropdown for the appropriate student(s) then click Next: Homeless, Runaway, Head Start, Migrant.</p>
is NOT a Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, or Head Start child	click No and go to step 10.

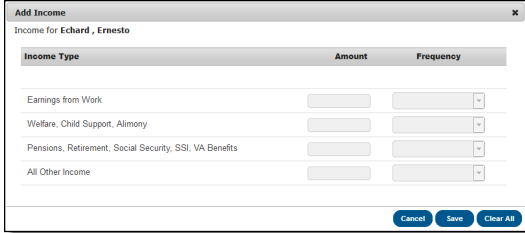
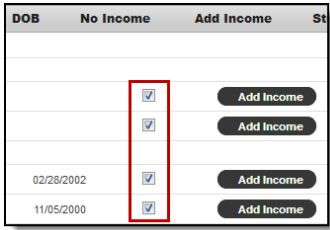
Step 10. Enter Household Gross Income

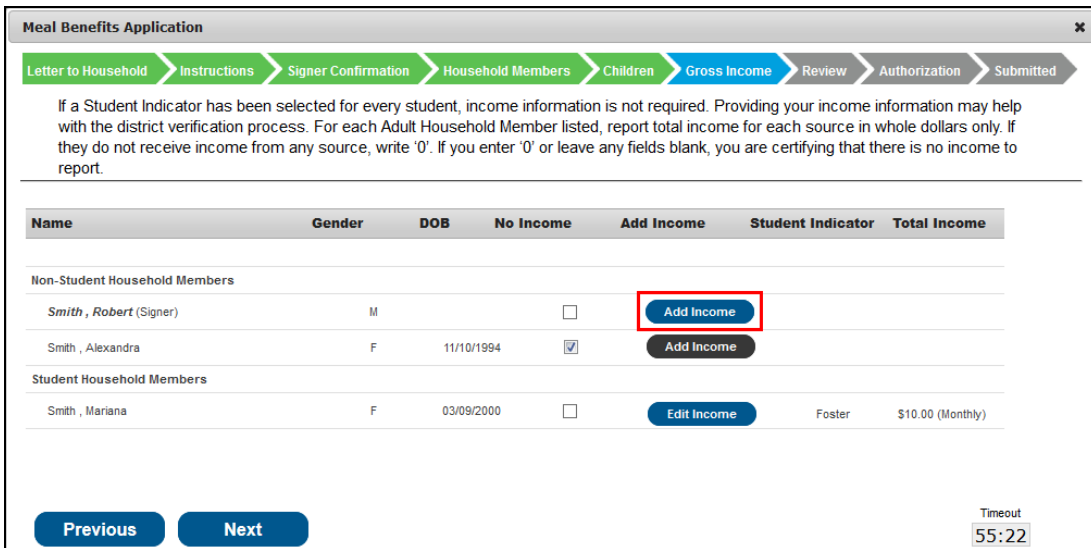
Now that household members have been identified, income must be entered for each member.

FRAM Administrators

Household Income Instructions information can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the Online Application Editor.

Per USDA policy, income may only include whole dollar amounts.

If...	Then...
you want to enter income information	<p>indicate each household member's income by selecting the Add Income button and entering their income amount.</p>  <p>OR</p> <p>Mark the No Income checkbox for each household member that has no income.</p>  <p>Once all household member income is entered, click Next.</p>
you do NOT want to enter income information	<p>click Next.</p> <p>If income is not specified, you are certifying that you have no income to report Your application will be processed as No Income and be approved for free benefits.</p>



Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > Instructions > Signer Confirmation > Household Members > Children > **Gross Income** > Review > Authorization > Submitted

If a Student Indicator has been selected for every student, income information is not required. Providing your income information may help with the district verification process. For each Adult Household Member listed, report total income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying that there is no income to report.

Name	Gender	DOB	No Income	Add Income	Student Indicator	Total Income
Non-Student Household Members						
Smith, Robert (Signer)	M		<input type="checkbox"/>	Add Income		
Smith, Alexandra	F	11/10/1994	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Add Income		
Student Household Members						
Smith, Mariana	F	03/09/2000	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit Income	Foster	\$10.00 (Monthly)

Previous Next

Timeout 55:22

Indicating Household Member Income

Step 11. Review Household Information for Accuracy

Now that household members (and their benefits) have been identified, household information must be reviewed for accuracy.

The **Total Income** column lists the total amount of money each household member makes based on the frequency noted (i.e., monthly, yearly, etc). Frequencies listed in this column are automatically annualized across all members. The **Total Household Income** field indicates the total amount of income the household (all members included) earns per year. The **Total Household Size** indicates the total amount of members within the household.

Review all the information on the screen and if it is accurate, select the **Next** button. If this information is incorrect, select the **Previous** button to go back to the previous step and correct inaccurate information.

FRAM Administrators

Review information can be modified in the [Application Instructions](#) template within the [Online Application Editor](#).

Review the household information below for accuracy. If any of the information is incorrect, select 'Previous' to go back and correct the data. After household information is reviewed select 'Next' to continue.

Name	Gender	DOB	School	Grade	Benefits	Student Indicator	Total Income
Non-Student Household Members							
Smith, James John (Signer)	F						\$1,500.00 (Twice a Month)
Example, Parent (Manual Add)	F						\$0.00
Smith, Jane Marie	F						\$100.00 (Monthly)
Student Household Members							
Example, Student (Manual Add)	F	1/1/1996	Willmar Middle School	08		Foster	\$10.00 (Monthly)
Smith, John Anthony	M	01/01/1995	Willmar Senior High	12			\$0.00
Smith, Susie Marie	F	04/01/2011					\$0.00
Total Household Income: \$37,320.00 (Yearly)							
Total Household Size: 6							

Previous Next Timeout 59:17

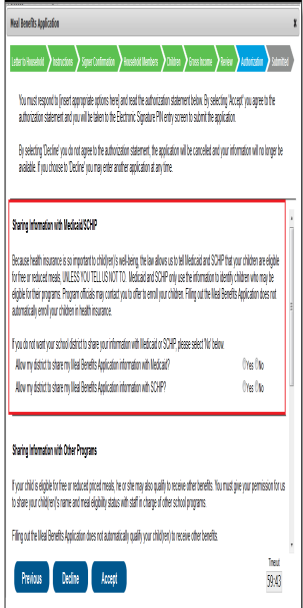
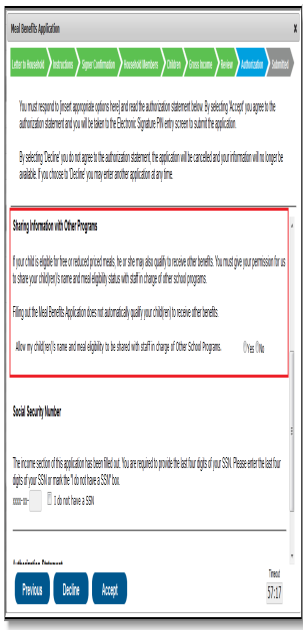

Reviewing Household Information for Accuracy

Step 12. Authorize Household Application

Now that all household information has been entered and confirmed as accurate, the household application must be authorized.

FRAM Administrators

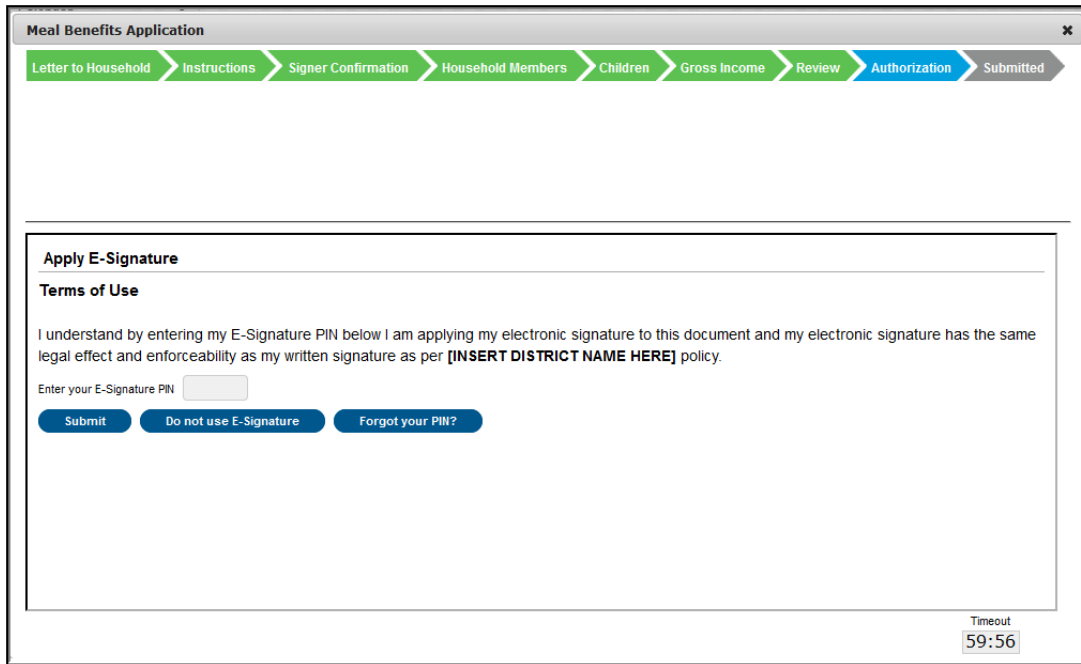
Authorization information can be modified in the Application Instructions template within the Online Application Editor.

Example	Description
	<p>The first step in the authorization process is to indicate whether you give your district permission to share your Medicaid or SCHIP information with Medicaid and SCHIP. Select the Yes or No radio buttons for each question.</p>
	<p>If your district has created benefit permissions, you will be asked whether you consent to the district sharing your child's name and meal eligibility with each benefit program. Select the Yes or No radio button for each question shown in the Sharing Information with Other Programs section.</p>
	<p>You must provide Social Security information. Enter the last four digits of your SSN or mark the "I do not have a SSN" box.</p>

Example	Description
 <p>Example Sharing Information with Other Programs</p> <p>If your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, he or she may also qualify to receive other benefits. You must give your permission for us to share your child's name and meal-eligibility status with staff in charge of other school programs.</p> <p>Filling out the Meal Benefits Application does not automatically qualify your child(ren) to receive other benefits.</p> <p>Allow my child(ren)'s name and meal-eligibility to be shared with staff in charge of Other School Programs. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Social Security Number</p> <p>The income section of this application has been filled out. You are requested to provide the last four digits of your SSN. Please enter the last four digits of your SSN or mail the 1 to not have a SSN form.</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> I do not have a SSN</p> <p>Authorization Statement</p> <p><input type="button" value="Previous"/> <input type="button" value="Decline"/> <input type="button" value="Accept"/> Next 57/17</p>	
 <p>Meal Benefits Application</p> <p>Let's Incomplete Instructions Signed Confirmation Personal Details School Income Family Information Authorize Submit</p> <p>You must respond to (print appropriate options below) and read the authorization statement below. By selecting "Accept" you agree to the authorization statement and you will be taken to the Electronic Signature PIN entry screen to submit the application.</p> <p>By selecting "Decline" you do not agree to the authorization statement, the application will be cancelled and your information will no longer be available. If you choose to "Decline" you may re-enter another application at any time.</p> <p>Signs a form. Sign in (name) or (last name) and a SSN PIN.</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> I do not have a SSN</p> <p>Optional Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities</p> <p>We are required to ask for information about your child(ren)'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 child(ren)'s eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.</p> <p>Ethnicity (check one)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Black</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Authorization Statement</p> <p>I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income (if required) is reported. I understand that the school will receive Federal funds based on the information I provide. I understand that school officials may verify (check) the information I understand that if I purposely provide false information, my children may lose benefits and I may be prosecuted.</p> <p><input type="button" value="Previous"/> <input type="button" value="Decline"/> <input type="button" value="Accept"/> Next 23/42</p>	<p>This section is optional and informational only. Responding to this section does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.</p>
 <p>Meal Benefits Application</p> <p>You must respond to (print appropriate options below) and read the authorization statement below. By selecting "Accept" you agree to the authorization statement and you will be taken to the Electronic Signature PIN entry screen to submit the application.</p> <p>By selecting "Decline" you do not agree to the authorization statement, the application will be cancelled and your information will no longer be available. If you choose to "Decline" you may re-enter another application at any time.</p> <p>Signs a form. Sign in (name) or (last name) and a SSN PIN.</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> I do not have a SSN</p> <p>Authorization Statement</p> <p>I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income (if required) is reported. I understand that the school will receive Federal funds based on the information I provide. I understand that school officials may verify (check) the information I understand that if I purposely provide false information, my children may lose benefits and I may be prosecuted.</p> <p><input type="button" value="Previous"/> <input type="button" value="Decline"/> <input type="button" value="Accept"/> Next 55/16</p>	<p>Review the Authorization Statement. If you agree with this statement, believe all entered information is accurate and would like to complete the application process, select the Accept button.</p> <p>If you do not agree with the application and Authorization Statement, select the Decline button. If the Decline button is selected, a message will appear warning you the application process will be cancelled and all application information entered will be deleted.</p>

Step 13. Electronically Sign the Household Application

Once you have reviewed the application and agreed to the Authorization Statement, you must review the Terms of Use.



Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > Instructions > Signer Confirmation > Household Members > Children > Gross Income > Review > **Authorization** > Submitted

Apply E-Signature

Terms of Use

I understand by entering my E-Signature PIN below I am applying my electronic signature to this document and my electronic signature has the same legal effect and enforceability as my written signature as per [INSERT DISTRICT NAME HERE] policy.

Enter your E-Signature PIN

Submit **Do not use E-Signature** **Forgot your PIN?**

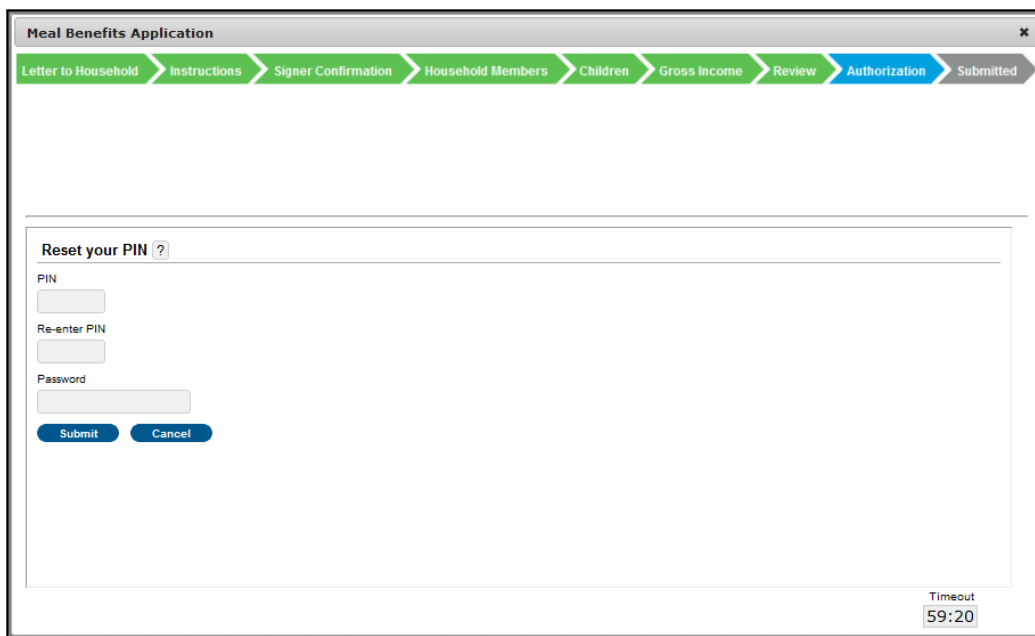
Timeout: 59:56

Terms of Use and Entering E-Signature PIN

If you agree to the Terms of Use and would like to sign the document with you legally-binding E-Signature **Enter your E-Signature PIN** and select **Submit**.

If you do not want to electronically sign the application, select the **Do not use E-Signature** button. This action will cancel the application due to the need for the application to have a legally-binding electronic signature in order to meet state and federal guidelines

If you forgot your PIN, click the **Forgot you PIN** button. You will be redirected to the Reset your PIN editor where you can reset your PIN.



Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > Instructions > Signer Confirmation > Household Members > Children > Gross Income > Review > **Authorization** > Submitted

Reset your PIN ?

PIN

Re-enter PIN

Password

Submit **Cancel**

Timeout: 59:20

Resetting a Forgotten PIN

Step 14. Review and Print Submission Notice

The application has now been submitted to the district for processing.

FRAM Administrators

Submission Notice information can be modified in the Submitted template within the Online Application Editor.

Meal Benefits Application

Letter to Household > Instructions > Signer Confirmation > Household Members > Children > Gross Income > Review > Authorization > Submitted

Your Meal Benefits Application has been submitted. Please print this page for your records. This will include the information you provided on your application. A submission notice and final summary report has also been sent to your Portal Process Inbox. You may 'Quit' or safely close out of the application at this time.

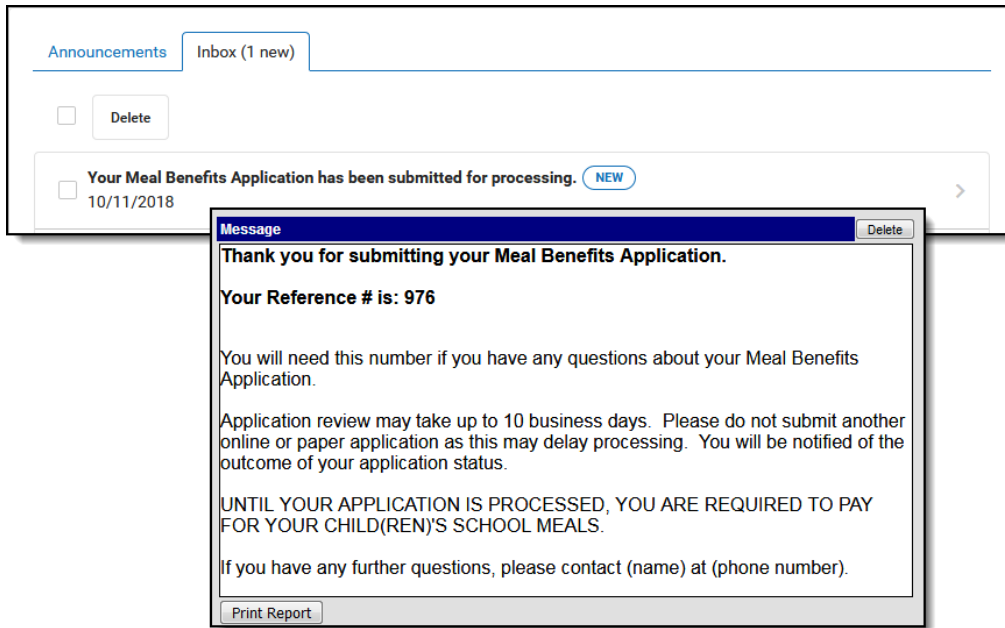
Meal Benefits Application Report							
Name	Gender	DOB	School	Grade	Benefits	Student Indicator	Total Income
Non-Student Household Members							
Example, Parent	F						No Income
Smith, James John	F						\$1,500.00 (Twice a Month)
Smith, Jane Marie	F						\$100.00 (Monthly)
Student Household Members							
Example, Student	F	01/01/1996	Willmar Middle School	08		Foster	\$10.00 (Monthly)
Smith, John Anthony	M	01/01/1995	Willmar Senior High	12			No Income

Timeout
55:12

[Quit](#)

Application Submission Notice

You may print and/or save the Confirmation Submission Notice and the Benefits Application Summary Report for your records. You may also access this information in your Inbox.



Inbox Message Indicating Meal Benefits Application Submission

Your Inbox will contain a message indicating submission of the Meal Benefits Application. Select the link to review the Confirmation Submission Notice and the Application Summary Report. The FRAM Processor(s) will also receive an Inbox notice indicating your application was submitted.

After the FRAM Processor has processed the application, you will receive an Inbox message indicating the application was processed. If your district has enabled the Include Approval/Denial Letter [FRAM Preference](#), you will receive an Inbox message containing a PDF copy of your Approval/Denial Letter which indicates whether the application was approved or denied.