

Davidson Charter Academy
2024-2025 APPLICATION FOR REDUCED LUNCH

Please complete and return this form in a sealed envelope by Friday, August 30th, 2024. We want to assure you that this information will be kept in the strictest confidence and used only to verify your eligibility for free lunch provided by our school.

Please include verification of active food stamps or government assistance with your application. If you do not have a letter saying you are actively part of an assistance program, contact your caseworker and they can provide it to you.

STUDENT INFORMATION (Please print)

Name	Grade	Food Stamp Case Number (if any)	WFFA* Case Number (if any)

**Work First Family Assistance*

FOSTER CHILD: List the child's monthly personal use income. Write "0" if the child has no personal use income. \$ _____

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND MONTHLY INCOME: (If you have supplied a Food Stamp or WFFA case number for the child, you may skip this portion.)

Names of Household Members	Gross MONTHLY Earnings (before deductions)		MONTHLY Welfare Payments, Child Support or Alimony	MONTHLY Payments From Pensions	Any Other MONTHLY Income
	Job #1	Job #2			

SIGNATURE: I certify that all the above information is true and correct and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify the information on the application.

Signature of Adult Household Member Date

Printed Name

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Davidson Charter Academy offers healthy meals every school day. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS? All children in households receiving benefits from North Carolina SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or North Carolina 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 who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals. Children may receive free meals if your household's income falls at or below the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines listed below.

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 office@davidsoncharter.org

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?

No. Use one 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: Davidson Charter Academy, 500 Biesecker Road, Lexington, NC 27295; 336-803-7809.

4. 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. 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 for meals.

5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE?

We do not offer online applications at this time.

6. 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.

7. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?

Yes. You must provide verification of active food stamps and other government-based need programs along with your application. If you do not have a letter saying you are actively part of an assistance program, contact your caseworker and they can provide it to you.

8. 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 meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

9. 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: Davidson Charter Academy, 500 Biesecker Road, Lexington, NC 27295; 336-803-7809; office@davidsoncharter.org

10. 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 meals.

11. 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.

12. 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 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for Food and Nutrition Services (FNS, formerly Food Stamps) or other assistance benefits, contact Davidson County Department of Social Services at 336-242-2500.

If you have other questions or need help, call us at 336-803-7809.