

**CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**INCOME GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS**

**Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**

**Instructions:**

1. Income guidelines to be used by all persons reviewing applications.
2. Distribute to all schools/sites for use by determining officials.

The following income guidelines will be used in Connecticut from **July 1, 2016**, to **June 30, 2017**, for determining eligibility of participants for free and reduced-price meals in the Child Nutrition Programs. These guidelines are taken from the United States Department of Agriculture’s annual adjustments to the Income Guidelines.

<b>INCOME * GUIDELINES FOR CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS</b>											
<b>FREE MEALS/MILK</b>						<b>REDUCED-PRICE MEALS</b>					
<b>Number in Family</b>	<b>Annual Gross Income</b>	<b>Monthly Gross Income</b>	<b>Twice Per Month</b>	<b>Every Two Weeks Gross Income</b>	<b>Weekly Gross Income</b>	<b>Number in Family</b>	<b>Annual Gross Income</b>	<b>Monthly Gross Income</b>	<b>Twice Per Month</b>	<b>Every Two Weeks Gross Income</b>	<b>Weekly Gross Income</b>
<b>1</b>	15,444	1,287	644	594	297	<b>1</b>	21,978	1,832	916	846	423
<b>2</b>	20,826	1,736	868	801	401	<b>2</b>	29,637	2,470	1,235	1,140	570
<b>3</b>	26,208	2,184	1,092	1,008	504	<b>3</b>	37,296	3,108	1,554	1,435	718
<b>4</b>	31,590	2,633	1,317	1,215	608	<b>4</b>	44,955	3,747	1,874	1,730	865
<b>5</b>	36,972	3,081	1,541	1,422	711	<b>5</b>	52,614	4,385	2,193	2,024	1,012
<b>6</b>	42,354	3,530	1,765	1,629	815	<b>6</b>	60,273	5,023	2,512	2,319	1,160
<b>7</b>	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919	<b>7</b>	67,951	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307
<b>8</b>	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023	<b>8</b>	75,647	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455
<b>Each Additional Family Member</b>	+ 5,408	+ 451	+ 226	+ 208	+ 104	<b>Each Additional Family Member</b>	+ 7,696	+ 642	+ 321	+ 296	+ 148

\* Income means income before deductions such as income taxes, Social Security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions and bonds. It includes the following: 1) Monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions or fees; 2) net income from non-farm self-employment; 3) net income from farm self-employment; 4) Social Security; 5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; 6) net rental income; 7) public assistance or welfare payments; 8) unemployment compensation; 9) government civilian employee or military retirement, or pensions or veterans’ payments; 10) private pension or annuities; 11) alimony or child support payments; 12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; 13) net royalties; and 14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts and other resources.

“Income” as used here does not include any income or benefits received under any Federal programs, which are excluded from consideration as income by any legislative prohibition, for example, the value of benefits received under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps).

If a household has only one source of income, or if all sources of income are the same frequency, do **not** use conversion factors. Compare the income or sum of the incomes to the chart above for the appropriate frequency and household size to make the eligibility determination.

## CACFP AND SFSP INCOME GUIDELINES, continued

Many households have different sources of income coming into the home at different frequencies, such as weekly or bi-weekly wages and monthly social security benefits. In these situations, all sources of income must be converted to an annual amount using the calculations below.

- Multiply **weekly** income by 52
- Multiply income received **every two weeks** by 26
- Multiply income received **twice a month** by 24
- Multiply **monthly** income by 12

In applying guidelines, a school food authority/institution **must** compare the household's size and total household income to the income guidelines to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price meals. Children of parents or guardians who become unemployed may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals during the period of unemployment.

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- (1) *mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;*
- (2) *fax: (202) 690-7442; or*
- (3) *email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



For information on the CACFP and SFSP, visit the CSDE's [CACFP](#) and [SFSP](#) Web pages or contact the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457.

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