

Entitlement for Free School Meals

What is Free School Meals?

Free school meals are available to children whose parents qualify by meeting the criteria listed below. Children must be in school all day and they will be provided with a meal at lunchtime that is paid for by the school.

How do I qualify?

Parents/carers who receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support
- Employment & Support Allowance (Income Related) – not Contribution related
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance – not Contribution based
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, providing you do not also receive Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190
- Universal Credit

If you have recently become unemployed, but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals.

How do I apply?

You can complete the 'Free School Meals In Somerset' application form and take to your child's school or send it to:

Entitlements Team,
Country Hall,
Taunton,
TA1 4DY

Or you can apply online at: www.somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Pupil Premium

If you are awarded free school meals, the school that your child attends will also be allocated money called Pupil Premium. The money is then used to support the pupils at the school.

