

**2011 - 2012
FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATION
FACT SHEET**

When filling out the application form, please pay careful attention to these helpful hints.

Food Stamp/TANF/FDPIR case number: This must be the complete case number supplied to you by the agency including all numbers and letters, for example, E 123456, or whatever combination is used in your county. Refer to a letter you received from your local Department of Social Services for your case number or contact them for your number. All children with the same case number may be listed on the same application. If anyone in your household receives food stamps, all children living in your household are eligible to receive free meals at school.

Direct Certification: If you receive food stamps or TANF, send in the Direct Certification Letter from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance instead of completing the application. Make a copy for your records.

Foster Child: A child who is living with a family but who is under the legal care of the welfare agency or court may be listed on your family application. List the child's "personal use" income. This includes only those funds provided by the agency which are identified for the personal use of the child, such as personal spending allowances, money received by his/her family, or from a job. Funds provided for housing, food and care, medical, and therapeutic needs are not considered income to the foster child. Write "0" if the child has no personal use income.

Household: A group of related or nonrelated people who are living in one house and share income and expenses.

Adult Family Members: All related and nonrelated people who are 21 years of age and older living in your house.

Financially Independent: A person is financially independent and a separate economic unit/household when his or her earnings and expenses are not shared by the family/household.