

## Your child could get a Free School Meal (FSM)

**Your child could be eligible for a FSM if you satisfy the qualifying benefit criteria**

### Why apply for a FSM?

- Your child will receive a healthy nutritional meal
- It will not cost you a penny
- Applying is quick and easy

### How do I Apply?

Apply by visiting [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) and selecting the following tab. (You will need your National Insurance Number or Home Office number to hand).

### Qualifying Benefits for FSM

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseekers allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 a year after tax and not including any benefits you get). This includes those who had free school meals whilst on Universal Credit before April 1st 2018 even if earnings are above that £7400 figure.

*If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until March 2023, or until they finish their current phase of schooling (primary or secondary), if that's after March 2023.*

[Apply for free school meals \(Year 3 and older\) >](#)

### Did you know?

Registering for a FSM helps schools identify anyone on low income; the school can then claim additional funding from the government, which can help towards extra computers, books, trips out and staff etc.