

# More Than a Meal

**Completing an Alternative Income Form has benefits beyond meals - check it out!**

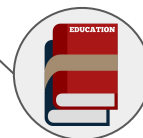
School Funding to school sites to ensure students receive the support they need



Counseling, Reading, Intervention teachers, aides



Textbooks, teacher training



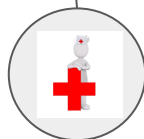
New food Program - Better4You Meals



Hot spots and Home Internet discounts



Nurse and Psych services



**Please Complete an Alternative Income Form**  
**(previously the free/reduced meals program application) - this Form is optional but highly recommended**

Please visit:

<https://mwusd.org/parent-resources/lunch-menu-school-lunch-program/>

to locate the Form. You only need to complete one Form for your entire household. You may call your school office for a paper copy of the Form, print one off of our website or call our District Office 707-524-2970 to fill out the form over the phone.

**Completing the Form helps ensure your school gets the funding it deserves for school programs.**

# Frequently Asked Questions

*How does the Alternative Income Form (previously: free/reduced-price meal application) affect OTHER school funding?*

Every student who is under a certain income, learning English, homeless or in foster care generates 20% more funding. In districts where at least 55% of students fall into these categories, they receive even more funding. In the Mark West Union School District, additional dollars are given to each school to increase or improve services for these students. Completing the Alternative Income Form ensures your school receives all available funds.

*We are receiving Free meals for all of the 2020-2021 school year, why should I fill out this Form?*

Even though meals this year are free, if Forms are not submitted, the additional funds mentioned above will be lost. These funds support Counseling, classroom aides, Reading and Intervention teachers, school nurse, staff development, new textbooks and other school programs. Please file your application now!

*Do I need to fill out a Form for each child?*

No, you can fill out one Form for multiple children in the same household.

*Who will know that our family submitted a Form?*

Our system is confidential.

*Do I still need to fill out a Form if I qualify for other benefits?*

No. If you are currently receiving food stamps/CalFresh, SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid benefits and your information has not changed, your child automatically qualifies for program funding.

*Can I fill the Form out online?*

Not at this time. To download a paper version of the form please visit <https://mwusd.org/parent-resources/lunch-menu-school-lunch-program/>, print the Alternative Income Form, fill out, sign and return to your school office or call 707-524-2970 to fill out the form over the phone.

*Do I have to list a social security number?*

You must print the last four **(4)** digits of your Social Security Number (SSN) OR check the box next to NO SSN if you do not have one.

*How is internet access connected to the Alternative Income Form?*

Various Internet providers offer reduced rate home internet services for families that qualify through an income eligibility program. For more information visit your provider's website.

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