

Alternative Low Income Form

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please take a moment and read how you can make a huge difference at Founders. Filling out the attached form will take less than two minutes and benefit every child who attends our school. If you believe you are within the established guidelines, simply answer the appropriate question that applies to your family. Charter schools are funded significantly less than traditional schools. Please help the school with reporting an accurate number of students who qualify. The school may receive access to various programs, funding, and grants based on these numbers. We appreciate you taking the time to review and return the form. This information is confidential and will not be shared.

Each family who fills out the information and qualifies will receive the following benefits for their student:

- *Free day field trips
- *Free pizza and sandwiches each week on Monday and Friday
- *Free bus tickets for the MTA for the year
- *Access to all school events at no charge
- *Possible reduced internet costs at home

The benefit to the student and charter school is significant! We need your help and appreciate everyone who takes the time to answer the questions that apply.

Why do we want to know about your household income? The number of low income students attending our school is important because the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) uses this information to calculate State Adequacy Aid for districts and Charter School Tuition Aid. In most cases, the State will provide an extra \$1,700 for each student who qualifies. The number of low income students is also used to calculate federal grant awards.

NHDOE's definition of low income uses the same household income thresholds used by the NSLP. Amounts are adjusted each year to account for inflation. Here is a link to the guidelines:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines> The current table is below.

This survey is voluntary.

Income Guidelines for the School Year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Size	Household		
	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$22,459	\$1,872	\$432
2	\$30,451	\$ 2,538	\$586
3	\$38,443	\$ 3,204	\$740
4	\$46,435	\$ 3,870	\$893
5	\$54,427	\$ 4,536	\$1,047
6	\$62,419	\$ 5,202	\$1,201
7	\$70,411	\$ 5,868	\$1,355

For each additional person please add \$7,992 to the annual total. For instance, if you have 8 people considered part of your household you would add (\$70,411 + \$7,992) to see if you qualify.

What is a household? It is a group of people who live together, share their income and expenses, and share at least some meals. It is not required that they be related family members. If a person pays rent for a room but does not share income and other expenses this person is not part of the household. Report this room rent as income in section 3. (The renter may qualify as a separate household.)

Who may submit this form? This form can be submitted if you qualify due to income and number of people in your household, having a case number, or care for foster children in your home. The head of household may submit the form.

Do I need to complete Section 1?

*You may leave section blank unless you have a case number. If you have a case number this is all you will need to complete the questions.

Do I need to complete Section 2?

*Section 2 may be left blank unless you care for foster children.

Do I need to complete Section 3?

* If you do not have a case number or foster children then fill in Section 3. Simply enter your average, monthly gross income (before tax and withholdings) for all children and adults in your household, except foster children. If you receive regular overtime this should be included. Please remember you must keep records, (one month of pay stubs is sufficient), for ALL earners. For cash earnings keep notes. Keep these records for one year. The second question asks for the number of people in your household.

Privacy Promise: The school will protect the confidentiality of information on this form, using it only to report to NHDOE the number of students who qualify in one of the sections. Information will not be shared with any other government agency or other school staff.

This form is only for schools that do NOT participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

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