## Free School Meals & Uniform Allowance





If you are in receipt of one of the following, you will need to upload a Proof of Benefit letter when applying for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance for the 2024/25 academic year:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- → Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit

To be ready for when applications open on the EA Connect portal on 18 June, you can request a Proof of Benefit letter now, by <u>clicking here</u>. It will take at least five days to be sent to you.

If you receive Tax Credits or Universal Credit, you do not need the Proof of Benefit Letter. However, you will still need to upload evidence of these benefits when you apply.

You will also find details on eligibility and the supporting documentation you will need to upload when making your application. More information on eligibility and supporting documentation can be found at <a href="https://www.eani.org.uk/fsm">www.eani.org.uk/fsm</a>

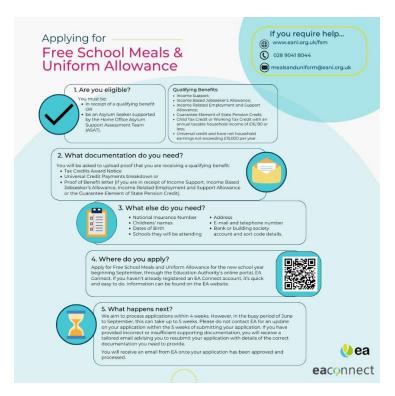
Please note, as well as new applicants, parents/guardians of children who are already in receipt of Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance will need to apply again for the 2024/25 school year.

If you don't already have an EA Connect account, you will need to set one up. This is quick and easy to do, and there is lots of helpful information available on www.eani.org.uk/fsm to show you how.

Children with a statement of special educational needs and who need a special diet may be entitled to Free School Meals support.

You can get further information by emailing mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk

The EA's helpdesk can also be contacted on 028 9041 8044, Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4pm.



For more information, including FAQs, visit: www.eani.org.uk/fsm



Applications for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance should be submitted before Friday 26 July to ensure application is processed for the start of the new year.

Please ensure you have completed everything correctly and submitted all relevant supporting documentation.

For more information see the EA website or to apply visit EA Connect