Pupil Premium and Free School Meal Eligibility

Free school meal (FSM) and Pupil Premium eligibility are split into two categories.

Free School Meal Eligibility Categories

Targeted Free School Meals: Available to children in households receiving Universal Credit with net annual earnings of £7,400 or less.

Expanded Free School Meals: A new national expansion covering all children in households receiving Universal Credit with net annual earnings above £7,400. **Note:** Children in this expanded category receive free school lunches, but do not generate Pupil Premium funding for their school.

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM): All children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 automatically receive a free school meal regardless of income, though parents should still apply for Targeted FSM if they are eligible.

Qualifying Benefits (for Targeted FSM)

- ✓ Universal Credit
- ✓ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- ✓ Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- ✓ Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- ✓ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,105)
- ✓ Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after stopping work)
- ✓ Families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) who meet specific Department for Education criteria

Pupil Premium Eligibility Criteria

Pupil Premium is extra funding allocated to state-funded schools to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. It is generated by:

- Pupils who qualify for Targeted Free School Meals (including the "Ever 6" cohort of children who have been eligible for targeted FSM at any point in the last 6 years).
- Local authority looked-after children (LAC).
- Previously looked-after children (adopted from care, or left care under a special guardianship, residence, or child arrangements order).
- Service pupil premium for children of regular armed forces personnel.

Note: Children qualifying solely under the Expanded FSM category (>£7,400 Universal Credit) or Universal Infant Free School Meals (Reception–Year 2 without qualifying benefits) do not generate Pupil Premium funding.

To submit an application, that only takes a couple of minutes to complete, please use the following link:

https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims