



# Bulletin

**NUMBER**

#14-68-07

**DATE**

March 17, 2014

**OF INTEREST TO**

County Directors

Social Services Supervisors  
and Staff

Tribal Social Services  
Supervisors and Staff

**ACTION/DUE DATE**

Please read information  
and prepare for  
implementation

**EXPIRATION DATE**

March 17, 2016

## School Nutrition for Children in Foster Care

**TOPIC**

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 [Public Law 111-296]

**PURPOSE**

To inform county and tribal caseworkers of the process for certifying children in foster care for free and reduced school meals; requirements of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

**CONTACT**

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**SIGNED**

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Children and Family Services Administration

**TERMINOLOGY NOTICE**

The terminology used to describe people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 [Public Law 111-296] makes foster children categorically eligible for free school meals.

A foster child whose care and placement is the responsibility of an agency that administers a state plan under part B or E of Title IV of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.] or a foster child who a court has placed with a caretaker household is eligible for free school meals without need for an application. All foster care children are eligible, including non-Title IV-E eligible foster care children.

Documentation has to be provided to local educational agencies (schools) that a child's status is that of a child in foster care. To comply with this requirement, the Certification of Foster Child Status for School Lunch or Food Program (DHS-6384 5-11) form is completed. This form is available on the Minnesota Department of Human Services website under Edocs ([DHS website](#)) and searching for 6384, or by following this link to [6384 form](#).

A child's foster parent/caretaker or caseworker must complete the form. The child's caseworker needs to sign the form to "certify" a child's foster care status. The caseworker or foster parent/caretaker may take the form to the school and give it to the person responsible for the school nutrition program, or the person responsible for maintaining student records. The form can also be provided to child care providers of foster children if providers participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Foster households are not required to submit an Application for Educational Benefits to the school to qualify for school meal benefits on behalf of foster child in addition to form 6384.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory**

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling 651-431-4671 or toll free at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.