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### Free School Meals – new application process

A new free school meals online application has been created which allows the parent/guardian to check if their child is entitled to free school meals before completing the online application process.

This new online facility speeds up the application process when applying for free school meals as it allows parents/guardians to check entitlement and receive instant confirmation if their child is entitled before completing the online application form.

To check eligibility or to make a new claim for free school meals please visit:

[https://east-riding-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free\\_School\\_Meals\\_Application](https://east-riding-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals_Application)

In order to qualify for free school meals, the parent must be in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Income Support
- Universal Credit - Your annual income assessed by the Department for Work and Pension must be less than £7,400. Any pupil eligible for free school meals before 1 April 2018 when the earned income threshold is introduced will retain their eligibility until the end of universal credit roll-out which is March 2022
- Child Tax Credit (but NOT receiving Working Tax Credit) – provided your annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed £16,190 (**Please note:** this amount is subject to change in April every year)
- Employment Support Allowance (income-related)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

The benefit section continues to administer free school meal applications for children under 19 years old, in full time education and attending an East Riding School. Any queries please contact the benefits team on 01482 393939, or email [benefit.assessments@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:benefit.assessments@eastriding.gov.uk) alternatively customers can call into a local customer service centre.