

SSS FEE WAIVER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE 2017-18 AWARD YEAR

To reduce the obstacle that the application fee itself can create for the neediest of families, SSS by NAIS automatically evaluates eligibility for families to receive a fee waiver and no longer require families to request waivers for schools to approve. The eligibility for fee waiver approval will be based on the information families submit on their PFS's regarding their total income, family household size, and other factors.

To be waiver-eligible, the family must meet all of the criteria listed below:

- Neither parent owns or shares ownership in a business or farm
- Parents must be US or US territory residents (i.e., waivers are not available for international families)
- The parents' total assets must be less than \$25,000
- Family must qualify for the federal free lunch program

To determine the income criteria for families larger than 10, add \$5,408 for each additional family member.

The SSS fee waiver completely covers the cost of the initial submission of the family's PFS, regardless of the number of schools listed or the number of children applying. Making updates to a submitted PFS carries no additional fee for parents; therefore no waiver is needed for families making updates or revisions to a PFS already in the system. If a family is not eligible for a fee waiver upon initial submission of the PFS and pays the fee, but later revises its information in a manner that would make it eligible for a waiver, no waiver or refund will be given as the initial fee has already been paid and submitted.

Though rare, if a parent completes and submits a second PFS for the same academic year, the fee waiver eligibility will be determined based on the information provided in the second PFS.

FEDERAL FREE LUNCH INCOME AND FAMILY SIZE LIMITS¹

FOR FAMILY SIZES OF...	...TOTAL INCOME FOR 2016 MUST BE LESS THAN:
1	\$15,444
2	\$20,826
3	\$26,208
4	\$31,590
5	\$36,972
6	\$42,354
7	\$47,749
8	\$53,157
9	\$58,565
10	\$63,973

¹Federal Register, Volume 81, No. 56, Wednesday, March 23, 2016.

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-23/pdf/2016-06463.pdf>

