



Program Description

The Special Milk Program (SMP) provides milk to children in schools and childcare institutions that do not participate in other Federal child nutrition meal service programs. The program reimburses schools for the milk they serve.

Schools in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs may also participate in the SMP to provide milk to children in half-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs where children do not have access to the school meal programs.

The Special Milk Program began in 1955 and is administered at the Federal level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture through its Food and Nutrition Service, formerly the Food and Consumer Service.

General Program Requirements

Any child in a school or institution that participates in the Special Milk Program can get milk. Schools may elect to offer free milk to low-income children. In order to qualify for this benefit program, you must be a resident of the state of Massachusetts.

In order to qualify, you must have an annual household income (before taxes) that is below the following amounts:

*For households with more than eight people, add \$7,696 per additional person. Always check with the appropriate managing agency to ensure the most accurate guidelines.

Household Size*	Maximum Income Level (Per Year)	Household Size*	Maximum Income Level (Per Year)
1	\$21,978	5	\$52,614
2	\$29,637	6	\$60,273
3	\$37,296	7	\$67,950
4	\$44,955	8	\$75,646

To apply for the Special Milk program, directly contact your child's school, camp, or child care institution. The Federal agency Child Nutrition Programs manages this program and provides state contact information here:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm>

Additionally, your state education agency can also provide you with more information about the program:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/cnp/nprograms/milk.html>