

No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) is a condition placed on someone's immigration status, which stops them accessing mainstream benefits such as universal credit, housing assistance, child benefit etc.

Does it apply to me?

NRPF applies to people who may be subject to immigration control but may also affect someone who has no immigration status (also can be referred to as 'undocumented').

Do I have no immigration status?

You might have no immigration status if your visa has expired and then you haven't reapplied on time or you have been refused by the Home Office when you have applied.

Can I have a valid visa and still have no recourse to public funds?

Yes. This is where you have received 'limited leave to remain' but with no recourse to public funds, so you are able to work but not able to claim benefits. This is one of the most common forms of 'leave to remain' given in the UK.

Can a child have British citizenship or leave to remain and still be impacted by NRPF?

Yes, if the main carer of the British child is subject to NRPF restrictions, then this may also have an impact on your child as you may not be entitled to benefits (e.g. child benefit). Since March 2022, children from families with NRPF can access Free School Meals if the family incomes meet the income thresholds.

Which children are now eligible?

Eligible groups include, but may not be limited to children of: -

- Zambrano or Chen carers
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- families holding a BN(O) passport
- spousal visa holders, work visa holders or student visa holders
- those with no immigration status

Income thresholds

If you are legally able to work, your maximum income to qualify is: -

- £22,700 for families outside of London with 1 child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with 2 or more children
- £31,200 for families within London with 1 child
- £34,800 for families within London with 2 or more children

How can I apply?

You can complete our '*NSCT_Application for free school meals from families with no recourse to public funds*' form. If you are able to do so, please provide evidence of your immigration status and income. If you cannot, you can simply self-declare

Data sharing

We are not required to send application forms or documents to the Department for Education or the Local Authority. The form is simply used to help us assess eligibility and will be securely stored with your child's school record to show if they are eligible for a Free School Meal.

Our school census returns to the DfE will include total numbers of pupils eligible for Free School Meals so that we can receive the right funding, but it will not show any indication of pupils' immigration status.

How our schools process personal data can be found in our '*Privacy notice (academy workforce, governors and trustees)*' available on the policy page of our website

Department for Education (DfE) guidance

The web link to the Department for Education's guidance is as follows: -

www.gov.uk/government/publications/free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools-and-local-authorities/providing-free-school-meals-to-families-with-no-recourse-to-public-funds-nrpf

Application for free school meals from families with no recourse to public funds

Please complete this application form if you are a family with NRPF and would like to apply for free school meals for your child

Child's details:

First name:	
Surname:	
Date of birth:	
Nationality:	
Address and postcode:	

Parent / carer details:

First name:	
Surname:	
Relationship to child:	
Nationality:	
Address and postcode:	

Immigration category

Please tick the immigration category you are applying under.

☐ Zambrano carer
☐ Spousal visa holder
☐ Work visa holder
☐ Student visa holder
☐ BN(O) Passport holder

☐ Article 8 of the ECHR
☐ Section 4 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1989
☐ Chen carer
☐ Other (Please specify below)

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Please tick with regard to any supporting documentation: -

☐	I am able to show evidence of my immigration status and have provided a copy
☐	I am unable to show evidence of my immigration status

Details of income

To be eligible for free school meals, your families' annual household income must be no higher than the approved thresholds. Total household income includes that of yourself, your partner who lives with you or any wider support you may be receiving -

☐	We are a family with one child living outside of London. Our household income is less than £22,700
☐	We are a family with two or more children living outside of London. Our household income is less than £26,320
☐	We are a family with one child living in London. Our household income is less than £31,200
☐	We are a family with two or more children living in London. Our household income is less than £34,800

Please tick with regard to any supporting documentation: -

☐	I am able to provide evidence of my household income (e.g. bank statements)
☐	I am unable to provide evidence of my household income

Declaration of applicant

I (PRINT NAME):	
of (ADDRESS):	

confirm that the information I have provided above is accurate and true.

Signed:	
Date:	