

**USA Swimming
Outreach Membership Criteria List**

Program Name/Description Description	Form of Proof Card/Letter/Certificate	Website	Notes
SNAP (food stamps)	Current date Notice of Action letter	https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/apply	Each state has it's own application form.
Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	The Homeless Coalition use their letterhead letter to confirm families' homeless status after screening the parents A letter from school district detailing students living situation	https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ https://nche.ed.gov/	
Federal Poverty Guidelines - Household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. LSC determines %.	Previous or current IRS Tax Return.	https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines	
Section 8 low income housing	Section 8 Voucher / Lease agreement / Rent Receipt	https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet	See state housing authority for more information.
Medicaid and other low income needs based health insurance programs including CHIP (children's health insurance program).	Annual Letter (including Medi-Cal)	https://www.cms.gov/ https://www.medicare.gov/	
Medicare -- especially for grandparents raising grandchildren.	Notice of Action letter	https://www.medicare.gov/	
Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	Approval Letter	https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program-tefap	Based on income levels and participation in programs like SNAP, CSFP, LEAP, etc.
Social Security Disability Insurance	Social Security Disability Notice Letter	https://www.ssa.gov/disability/	The Social Security Office will send them a notice with the amount participants will receive and when payments will start. IMPORTANT: Disability benefits will not necessarily continue indefinitely. The Social Security Disability Office reviews cases periodically. In a dual income household one person may qualify for SSDI while the other earner's income may exceed the poverty guidelines.
LIEAP -- Low Income Energy Assistance Program	Approval Letter	https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/liheap	The Office of Community Services will provide participants with the approval letter.
SSI -- Supplemental Security Income	Annual Statement	https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/ssi.html	
Consider YMCA/YWCA or Parks & Rec low income memberships. If athletes qualify for these memberships, have the applicant submit the income standards for the membership for consideration.	Letter from YMCA/YWCA or Parks and Rec Program		Contact local YMCA/YWCA or Park & Rec administrator for more information.
WIC -- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	Copies of WIC document that show participation in program.	https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/women-infants-and-children-wic	WIC participants have to go through an approval process. WIC doesn't send an approval letter. They will provide copies of documents to show that families are participating. Contact local WIC office.
TANF -- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program	Verification letter from Department of Health and Human Services	https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf	Contact family caseworker for documentation. IMPORTANT: Plan and work requirements are part of TANF. If they are not followed TANF benefits maybe cut. Also the employment situation may change (new job) that will push participants out of program. Work with TANF Caseworker to monitor status.
School Financial need based program - <u>Private/Parochial</u>	Verification letter from School administrator		See schools administrator for criteria for need based programs.

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<p>Disability -- allow all athletes who are disabled under USA Swimming definitions to qualify for an outreach membership.</p>	<p>Disability is defined by USA Swimming, as a permanent physical or cognitive disability that</p>	<p>https://www.usaswimming.org/utility/landing-pages/club/disability/</p>	<p>Contact LSC Disability Swimming Chairperson. substantially limits one or more major life activities.</p>
<p>Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)</p>	<p>Copy of welcome letter from the Health Insurance Marketplace.</p>	<p>https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/childrens-health-insurance-program/</p>	<p>IMPORTANT: CHIP benefits are different in each state. But all states provide comprehensive coverage. Must contact local state office. CHIP participants must show marketplace documents to prove income level. Participants will first receive a welcome letter in the mail. A couple of weeks later a more detailed packet will follow. CHIP provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid. Designed for families that have a low income.</p>
<p>Participation in Head Start</p>	<p>Letter from the Family Advocate/Family Support Specialist that states the family has been approved to participate in the Head Start program</p>	<p>https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs</p>	<p>The Health & Human Services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines are used to determine income eligibility for participation in Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Children from birth to age five who are from families with incomes below the poverty guidelines are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. The family works directly with the Family Advocate/Family Support Specialist to find a Head Start program that has space for the family.</p>
<p>Housing Choice Voucher Program</p>	<p>Copy of the Housing Voucher that the PHA issues to qualified families to either rent or purchase an apartment or home.</p>	<p>https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet</p>	<p>Housing choice vouchers allow very low-income families to choose and lease or purchase safe, decent, and affordable privately-owned rental housing. Housing choice vouchers are administered locally by public housing agencies (PHAs). A housing subsidy is paid to the landlord directly by the PHA on behalf of the participating family. The family then pays the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program. IMPORTANT: Under certain circumstances, if authorized by the PHA, a family may use its voucher to purchase a modest home. It is possible for a family with a low income to purchase a home.</p>
<p>Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)</p>		<p>https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program</p>	<p>CACFP provides aid to child and adult care institutions and family or group day care homes for the provision of nutritious foods that contribute to the wellness, healthy growth, and development of young children, and the health and wellness of older adults and chronically impaired disabled persons.</p>
<p>FDPIR -- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations</p>		<p>https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/food-distribution-program-indian-reservations-fdpir</p>	<p>USDA Foods to income eligible households living on Indian reservations, and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations or in Oklahoma. Households are certified based on income standards set by the Federal government and must be recertified at least every 12 months. Income level guidelines - https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/fdpir/exhibit-m-net-monthly-income-standard.pdf. IMPORTANT: Households may not participate in FDPIR and SNAP in the same month.</p>

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Summer Food Service Program	Verification letter from site administrator	https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program	The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Program operates during school vacations, primarily in the summer months from May through September. Certain categories of children are automatically eligible for free meals (categorically eligibility). Participation in comparable Federal assistance program (SNAP, FDPIR, TANF, etc.), documentation that the child is homeless, runaway, or migrant, a foster child; or enrollment in Head Start Program.
Seamless Summer Option	Current date, Individual Letter from the <u>school district</u>	https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/opportunity-schools	Meals are provided free of charge to children, 18 years and under, from low-income areas. IMPORTANT: THE LEVELS - Open - On a first-come, first served basis, serves all children age 18 and under at a site that is located within an area where at least 50 percent of the children are certified eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Restricted Open - On a first-come, first-served basis, serves children age 18 and under at a site that is located within the geographical boundaries of the attendance area of a school where at least 50 percent of the children are certified eligible for free or reduced price school meals or based on other data as discussed in Q17. Closed Enrolled - Serves only an identified group of children through age 18 who are participating in a specific program or activity. Meals are reimbursed for all children in attendance at the appropriate NSLP or SBP free rates
Federal free and reduced Hot Lunch Program	Current date, Individual Letter from the <u>school district</u>	https://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/national-school-lunch-program-nslp	Acceptable in areas that do not participate in the Community Eligibility Provision
Special Request - For cases not falling under these guidelines (child has entered foster care, children of veterans, athlete has a disability, accident/serious illness death of a parent/guardian, house fire, job loss or reduction of income, or similar emergency circumstances).	Determination made by LSC Registration Chair. Please contact jen@iaswim.org to determine appropriate proof of eligibility		IMPORTANT: Foster children - Guardianship of the foster child must be linked to the household of the guardian through custody papers.



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