

# FRAM Preferences

Last Modified on 03/11/2024 8:47 am CDT

[Year Preferences](#) | [Application Preferences](#) | [Verification Preferences](#)

Classic View: FRAM > FRAM Preferences

**Search Terms:** FRAM Preferences

FRAM Preferences houses all of the functionality related to permission, application, and verification preferences.

## Year Preferences

The Year Preferences tab allows districts to enter permission types provided to students within the district and setting the default expiration date. These permission types appear in the online Meal Benefits Application on the Authorization screen and for both Meal Benefits and Educational Benefits applications via the Household Applications editor.

This allows the application signer to approve or deny the permission type to share their child(ren)'s free/reduced eligibility with district staff in charge of other programs for benefits such as free text books, free sports fees, etc. Permissions will also appear in the Eligibility Editor.

Setting up permissions is not required by the district. This is optional. Check to see if your district currently provides permission to share approval via a paper document.

If a Permission is added after the Application Instructions Template has been created, the template will need to be recreated for the permission information to populate correctly and for it to display properly in the online [Meal Benefits Application](#).

Year Preferences
Application Preferences
Verification Preferences

Please remember to read the USDA regulations and Campus Community for any FRAM changes.

Year Preferences

School Year \*  
22-23

Default Expiration Date \*  
09/26/2023

Permission Name * Athletic Fees	Permission Sequence * 0	Remove
Permission Name * Enrollment Fee	Permission Sequence * 1	Remove

Add Permission

Save
Roll Forward Permissions

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Default Expiration Date</b>	This is the date on which current student eligibilities should expire. Typically, this date is set to 30 days into the next school year. The date set in this field will auto-populate Meal Benefits Application expiration/end date fields.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications Tool</li> <li>Eligibility Tool</li> <li>Eligibility Report</li> <li>FRAM Letter Batch Report</li> <li>Household Applications Report</li> </ul>

The image below is an example of how permissions are established on a [Meal Benefits Application](#). Permissions also appear for Education Benefits Applications.

### Household Applications ☆

FRAM > Application Processing > Household Applications

[New](#)
[Process](#)
[Find New Person](#)

**New Application Type**

☒ Meal Benefits Application
 ☐ Educational Benefits Application

**New Application Detail**

**\*Application Date**

11/04/2020

**\*Effective Date**

11/04/2020

**\*Expiration Date**

11/01/2021

**Determining Official**

System Administrator

**School Year**

20-21 ▼

**\*Opt Out Medicaid**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**\*Opt Out SCHIP**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Permission Detail**

Permission Name	Share Permission	Permission Name	Share Permission
Backpack Meals	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Book Program	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

The image below is an example of how permissions are set by the application signer when filling out the online [Meal Benefits Application](#) via Portal.

## Meal Benefits Application

### Sharing Information with Other Programs

If your child is eligible for free or reduced priced meals, he or she may also qualify to receive other benefits. You must give your permission for us to share your child(ren)'s name and meal eligibility status with staff in charge of other school programs.

Filling out the Meal Benefits Application does not automatically qualify your child to receive other benefits.

I do not wish to share my information with other programs.

☐

Allow my child(ren)'s name and meal eligibility to be shared with staff in charge of Athletic Fees \*

Select One \*

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

Allow my child(ren)'s name and meal eligibility to be shared with staff in charge of Enrollment Fee \*

Select One \*

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

Previous

Cancel

Submit

# Application Preferences

Settings on the Application Preferences tab allow the user to set default values for letter configuration and to configure options available during Meal Benefits and Educational Benefits application processing.

[Year Preferences](#) [Application Preferences](#) [Verification Preferences](#)

### Eligibility Import Preferences ?

Include Medicaid in Extend Direct Certification

☐

Non-Direct Eligibility Overwrite

☒

### General Letter Preferences

Hide Breakfast Program

☐

Hide Eligibility Expiration Date

☐

Default Signature ?

### Custom Letter Preferences

Save

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Eligibility Import Preferences</b>		

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Include Medicaid in Extend Direct Certification</b>	<p>If this checkbox is marked, the <b>Extend Direct Certification Status to Additional Students in Household</b> checkbox will also include Medicaid when using the Eligibility Import Wizard to <a href="#">import a direct certification file</a>.</p> <p>If all students in the same household as the import student should be assigned a Direct Certification eligibility status (even when not included in import file), users can mark the <b>Extend Direct Certification Status to Additional Students in Household</b> checkbox. Marking this checkbox will compare the student in the import file to the student(s) listed in the primary household or at the same address. Students in the household who do not have existing eligibilities will be assigned the same eligibility status as the student included in the import file.</p>	<a href="#">Eligibility Import Wizard</a>
<b>Non-Direct Eligibility Overwrite</b>	If this checkbox is marked, new non-direct eligibilities imported from the Eligibility Import Wizard will overwrite existing non-direct eligibilities. This checkbox is marked by default.	<a href="#">Eligibility Import Wizard</a>
<b>General Letter Preferences</b>		
<b>Hide Breakfast Program</b>	If this checkbox is marked, the breakfast-related fields will be hidden on default and custom Approval/Denial letters.	<a href="#">FRAM Communication</a>
<b>Hide Eligibility Expiration Date</b>	If marked, the Eligibility Expiration Date will be hidden on default and custom Approval/Denial letters.	<a href="#">FRAM Communication</a>
<b>Default Signature</b>	Information entered in the Default Signature box is used when new custom letter templates are created in FRAM Communication and is inserted on canned pre-application, direct certification, and verification letters.	<a href="#">FRAM Communication</a>
<b>Custom Letter Preferences</b>		
<b>Use Custom Approval/Denial Letter</b>	<p>If this checkbox is marked, custom approval/denial letters are used instead of canned letters. See the <a href="#">FRAM Communication</a> article for more information about custom letters.</p> <div> <p>This option must be selected for districts utilizing Online Meal Benefit Applications.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Household Applications Tool</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">FRAM Communication</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Verification Letters</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Applications</a></li> </ul>
<b>Canned Letter Preferences</b>		
<b>Hearing Official Name</b>	The name of the person who conducts Meal Benefits Application appeals. This field will insert the Hearing Official's name into default Approval/Denial letters. This option is not used in Custom letters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Household Applications Tool</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">FRAM Communication</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Verification Letters</a></li> </ul>

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Homeless Coordinator</b>	The name of the person to be listed as a contact in verification letters for questions related to homeless student eligibilities and the verification process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FRAM Communication</li> <li>Verification Letters</li> </ul>
<b>Migrant Coordinator</b>	The name of the person to be listed as a contact in verification letters for questions related to migrant student eligibilities and the verification process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FRAM Communication</li> <li>Verification Letters</li> </ul>
<b>Runaway Coordinator</b>	The name of the person to be listed as a contact in verification letters for questions related to runaway student eligibilities and the verification process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FRAM Communication</li> <li>Verification Letters</li> </ul>
<b>General Application Preferences</b>		
<b>Auto Fill Application Name</b>	This field designates how Meal and Educational Benefit applications will be named for identification purposes. Based on the value chosen, household applications will be listed under the <b>Signer's Name</b> (e.g., Johnson, Sally) or the <b>Household Name</b> (Johnson Household).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligibility Tool</li> <li>Household Applications Tool</li> <li>Household Applications Report</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>
<b>Auto Fill Reference Number</b>	<p>This field assigns a number to applications for identification purposes. This field is a read-only information field to show the next reference number to be assigned to a submitted application.</p> <p>This is not the exact number of applications processed to date. This includes any applications that have been started and not finished, deleted, excluded, etc. This number increments each time an online application is started (even if it's not finished) and each time New is selected in Household Applications. This number will continue to increase and does NOT restart with new school years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligibility Tool</li> <li>Household Applications Tool</li> <li>Household Applications Report</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>
<b>Display Medicaid Opt Out</b>	If this checkbox is marked, the <b>Opt Out Medicaid</b> checkbox will display on several FRAM tools and reports. When the <b>Opt Out Medicaid</b> checkbox is displayed, it is used to indicate whether or not a parent wishes to be contacted by the Medicaid (Medicaid Program) agency as related to their student's free/reduced eligibility. More information on this checkbox is included on the tools for which it appears.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Eligibility</li> <li>Eligibility Report</li> <li>Household Applications Report</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected						
<b>Display SCHIP Opt Out</b>	If this checkbox is marked, the <b>Opt Out SCHIP</b> checkbox will display on several FRAM tools and reports. When the <b>Opt Out SCHIP</b> checkbox is displayed, it can be used to indicate whether or not a parent wishes to be contacted by the SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program) agency as related to their student's free/reduced eligibility. More information on this checkbox is included on the tools for which it appears.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Eligibility</li> <li>Eligibility Report</li> <li>Household Applications Report</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>						
<b>Hide Annual (Yearly)</b>	If this checkbox is marked, the option to enter a "Annual" income is hidden on the Household Applications and FRAM Online Applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>						
<b>Benefit Case Number</b>	This field allows you to enter the minimum and maximum number of digits allowed when users enter a Benefit Case Number.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Online Meal Benefits Application</li> </ul>						
<b>Process Inbox Messages</b>	<table> <tr> <th>Option</th><th>Description</th><th>Areas Affected</th></tr> <tr> <td><b>Include Paper Applications</b></td><td>If selected, the application signer who submitted the paper Meal Benefits Application will automatically receive a <a href="#">Portal message</a> informing them their application has been processed after the FRAM Processor processes the application within Campus.</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Messages (Portal)</li> </ul> </td></tr> </table>	Option	Description	Areas Affected	<b>Include Paper Applications</b>	If selected, the application signer who submitted the paper Meal Benefits Application will automatically receive a <a href="#">Portal message</a> informing them their application has been processed after the FRAM Processor processes the application within Campus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Messages (Portal)</li> </ul>	
Option	Description	Areas Affected						
<b>Include Paper Applications</b>	If selected, the application signer who submitted the paper Meal Benefits Application will automatically receive a <a href="#">Portal message</a> informing them their application has been processed after the FRAM Processor processes the application within Campus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Applications</li> <li>Messages (Portal)</li> </ul>						

Preference	Definition	Description	Areas Affected	Areas Affected
	<b>Include Approval/Denial Letter</b>	<p>If selected, the application signer who submitted an Online Meal Benefits Application will receive an Approval/Denial Letter in their Portal Inbox after the application has been processed within Campus.</p> <p>If Include Paper Applications is selected as well as Include Approval/Denial Letter, then a paper Meal Benefits application processed in Campus via Household Application will receive an Approval/Denial Letter via their Portal Inbox.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Household Applications</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Messages (Portal)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a></li> </ul>	

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>State Agency Name</b>	The name of the agency that makes eligibility determinations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Verification</a></li> </ul>
<b>SFA ID</b>	The School Food Authority ID as assigned by Food & Nutrition Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Verification</a></li> </ul>
<b>Provision Preferences</b>		



Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Educational Benefits Applications Processed</b>	<p>If marked, this indicates Educational Benefits Applications are processed in the district due to one or more schools participating in Provision programs and enables users to create an Educational Benefits Application in the Household Applications tool.</p> <p>This is a district-wide setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Individual School(s)</b> - Indicates some but not all schools in the district process Educational Benefits Applications. When benefit applications are processed, the default selection will be Meal Benefits Application when selecting a new Household Application.</li> <li>• <b>All Schools</b>- Indicates all schools in the district process Educational Benefits Applications. When benefit applications are processed, the default selection will be Educational Benefits Application when selecting a new Household Application.</li> </ul> <p>This field will not appear unless Provision Program fields are enabled on the <a href="#">School tab</a>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Household Applications Tool</a></li> </ul>
<b>Online Application Preferences</b>		

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>Meal Benefits</b>	<p>Enables the Application/Forms section to become available within the Campus Portal. This checkbox also enables users to use the Meal Benefits Application within the Applications/Forms section for submitting Household Applications via the Portal.</p> <p>Per USDA guidelines, schools are not permitted to accept Meal Benefit applications for the upcoming school year before July 1. Therefore, if you choose to enable Online Applications for the first time (by selecting the Meal Benefits checkbox), you can set up the Custom Approval/Denial Letters for the upcoming school year before the July 1 but you cannot select the Meal Benefits checkbox until July 1. For example, if you decide to use Online Applications for the first time starting 7/1/2020 and you set up all Approval/Denial Letters in June 2020, you must wait until 7/1/2020 to select the Meal Benefits checkbox.</p> <div> <p><b>If you do NOT Activate E-Signature Functionality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is ultimately the responsibility of each CNP SA (Child Nutrition Program State Agency) and local agency to review their state's statutes and policies regarding what is required for the electronic transfer of information in state-administered Federal programs. Know the requirements prior to activating or deactivating E-Signature.</li> <li>The standard application instructions (found in FRAM &gt; FRAM Communication) list information on PIN use in several places. If you are turning off or not using E-Signatures, update the instructions to remove reference to the PIN requirements.</li> <li>There is language in the <a href="#">Terms of Use</a> section of the <a href="#">E-Signature</a> which mentions the electronic signature. Consider moving the information from this section to the Authorization Statement section of the <a href="#">Application Instructions</a> if you are not using the electronic signature.</li> </ul> </div> <div> <p>Please review the <a href="#">Setting up Online Meal Benefit Applications</a> article for a detailed walk-through of the workflow required to enable and properly manage Online applications.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Applications/Forms</a></li> <li><a href="#">Household Applications</a></li> </ul>

Preference	Definition	Areas Affected
<b>FRAM Processor Locked Time</b>	Indicates the number of minutes a FRAM Processor can work on processing an Online Meal Benefits Application submitted via the Portal before other FRAM Processors are allowed to open and process the online Meal Benefits application. This functionality ensures no more than one processor is processing the same application at the same time. After an online Meal Benefits application is submitted for approval and the amount of time selected in this field has passed, any processor may process the application.	<a href="#">Online Applications</a>
<b>Medicaid</b>	Allows schools/districts to enter a different name for their Medicaid benefits. This will be the Alternate Medicaid name used in the Authorizations screen within the online Meal Benefits Application on the Portal. If an alternate name is not entered, the USDA name will be used.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>
<b>SCHIP</b>	Allows schools/districts to enter a different name for their SCHIP benefits. This will be the alternate SCHIP name used in the Authorizations screen within the online Meal Benefits Application on the Portal. If an alternate name is not entered, the USDA name will be used.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>
<b>SNAP</b>	Allows schools/districts to enter a different name for their SNAP benefits. This will be displayed in the Benefits question in the online Meal Benefits Application workflow.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>
<b>TANF</b>	Allows schools/districts to enter a different name for their TANF benefits. This will be displayed in the Benefits question in the online Meal Benefits Application workflow.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>
<b>FDPIR</b>	Allows schools/districts to enter a different name for their FDPIR benefits. This will be displayed in the Benefits question in the online Meal Benefits Application workflow.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>
<b>Other</b>	Allows users to enter up to three additional meal benefits. These additional benefits will be displayed in the Benefits question in the online Meal Benefits Application workflow.	<a href="#">Online Meal Benefits Application</a>

## Verification Preferences

Settings on the Verification Preferences tab allow you to set default values/options to be used in letters sent to guardians of households whose applications are being verified.

All preferences are tied to and impact the [Verification](#) tool.

Year Preferences
Application Preferences
Verification Preferences

**Verification Letter Preferences**

☐ Canned  
☒ Custom

**Canned Letter Preferences**

Required fields are only necessary if Canned Letters is selected.

First Pre Notice Letter Due Date value \*  
09/25/2023

Second Pre Notice Letter Due Date \*  
10/09/2023

Hearing Date \*  
11/07/2022

Confirming Official Name  
Verona Beaumont

Reverse Charge or Toll Free Information \*  
If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call toll-free 1-800-555-5555

Secondary Breakfast Cost  
2.00

Middle Breakfast Cost  
2.00

Elementary Breakfast Cost  
1.50

Reduced Breakfast Cost  
0.30

Secondary Lunch Cost  
Middle Lunch Cost  
Elementary Lunch Cost  
Reduced Lunch Cost

Save

Preference	Definition
<b>Verification Letter Preferences</b>	Choose either Canned or Custom letters. If Custom is selected, see the <a href="#">FRAM Communication</a> article for more information about custom letters.
<b>First Pre Notice Letter Due Date</b>	The first Pre Notice Letter includes the due date from this field.
<b>Second Pre Notice Letter Due Date</b>	The second Pre Notice Letter includes the due date from this field.
<b>Hearing Date</b>	If parents do not approve of their new eligibility status, they must request an appeal by this date.
<b>Confirming Official Name</b>	The name of the person confirming the verification of Meal Benefits applications.
<b>Reverse Charge or Toll Free Information</b>	The phone numbers/contact information of district officials who handle recipient inquiries on Verification Notification letters.
<b>Secondary Lunch</b>	The standard price of high school lunch.
<b>Secondary Breakfast</b>	The standard price of high school breakfast.
<b>Middle Lunch</b>	The standard price of middle school lunch.
<b>Middle Breakfast</b>	The standard price of middle school breakfast.
<b>Elementary Lunch</b>	The standard price of elementary lunch.
<b>Elementary Breakfast</b>	The standard price of elementary breakfast.

## Previous Versions

[Application Preferences \[.2231 - .2319\]](#)

[Verification Preferences \[.2231 - .2319\]](#)

[Permission Preferences \[.2231 - .2319\]](#)

---