

# Mid Day Meals Scheme

## Details (Mid Day Meals Scheme)

The Mid Day Meals Scheme (MDM) is a welfare program introduced by the government to address the issues of hunger, malnutrition, and low school attendance among children. The scheme aims to provide free and nutritious meals to school children across the country. ■ The primary objectives of the Mid Day Meals Scheme are twofold. Secondly, it aims to increase school attendance and retention rates by removing the barrier of hunger and incentivizing parents to send their children to school.

## Objectives (Mid Day Meals Scheme)

- The scheme aims to provide free and nutritious meals to school children across the country.
- ■ The primary objectives of the Mid Day Meals Scheme are twofold.
- Secondly, it aims to increase school attendance and retention rates by removing the barrier of hunger and incentivizing parents to send their children to school.

## Important Features (Mid Day Meals Scheme)

- The Mid Day Meals Scheme (MDM) is a welfare program introduced by the government to address the issues of hunger, malnutrition, and low school attendance among children.
- The scheme aims to provide free and nutritious meals to school children across the country.
- Under this initiative, a hot cooked meal is served to children in primary and upper primary schools.
- ■ The primary objectives of the Mid Day Meals Scheme are twofold.
- Firstly, it seeks to improve the nutritional status of children, ensuring they receive a balanced diet and essential nutrients necessary for their growth and development.
- Secondly, it aims to increase school attendance and retention rates by removing the barrier of hunger and incentivizing parents to send their children to school.

## Benefits (Mid Day Meals Scheme)

- Improved nutritional status of children, leading to better physical and cognitive development.
- Increased school attendance and retention rates among children. Reduction in malnutrition
- related health issues among school children. Enhances the concentration and learning abilities of children. Promotes social equality by ensuring equal access to nutritious meals for children from all socio
- economic backgrounds. Alleviates the financial burden on families by providing free meals to their children. Creates employment opportunities for local communities through the implementation of the scheme.

## Eligibility (Mid Day Meals Scheme)

- Students in Government and Government
- aided schools: The scheme primarily targets students studying in government and government
- aided schools across India. Children enrolled in classes from the primary level up to the secondary level are eligible to benefit from the scheme. Age criteria: The scheme typically covers children between the ages of 6 and 14 years. However, specific age requirements may vary slightly from state to state or depending on the educational policies of different regions. Socio
- economic criteria: The Mid Day Meals Scheme aims to benefit children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Typically, children belonging to families with below
- poverty
- line (BPL) status or those from marginalized communities are given priority for enrollment in the scheme. School attendance: One of the key eligibility criteria for availing the benefits of the scheme is regular school attendance. Students are expected to attend school regularly to receive the mid
- day meals. Enrolled in recognized schools: Children must be enrolled in schools recognized by the appropriate education authorities to be eligible for the scheme. The scheme is primarily implemented in schools that adhere to the government's educational standards and guidelines.

## **Application Process (Mid Day Meals Scheme)**

- Step 1: Registration at the School Parents or guardians of eligible students need to visit the respective school where they wish to enroll their child for the Mid Day Meals Scheme.
- They will be required to fill out the registration form provided by the school administration.
- ■ Step 2: Verification of Eligibility The school authorities will verify the eligibility of the student based on criteria such as age, enrollment in a recognized school, and socio-economic background.
- They may request relevant documents or conduct interviews if necessary.
- ■ Step 3: Enrollment Confirmation Once the eligibility is confirmed, the school administration will notify the parents or guardians about the successful enrollment of their child in the Mid Day Meals Scheme.
- They will provide details regarding the commencement of the meals and any additional instructions.
- ■ Step 4: Regular Attendance To continue availing the benefits of the scheme, the student must maintain regular attendance at school.
- The attendance records will be monitored by the school authorities to ensure the student's active participation in the program.
- ■ Step 5: Meal Distribution During school hours, the designated mid-day meals will be provided to the enrolled students.
- The meals are usually served in the school premises, either in the classrooms or a designated dining area, depending on the school's facilities.
- ■ Step 6: Periodic Evaluation The school authorities may conduct periodic evaluations to assess the effectiveness and impact of the Mid Day Meals Scheme.
- This evaluation may involve collecting feedback from students, parents, and teachers to make necessary improvements to the program.

## **Documents Required (Mid Day Meals Scheme)**

- Birth certificates or age proof of the students Aadhaar card or other identification documents School registration certificate Bank account details (if applicable for direct benefit transfer)

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