

School Meals at Tucson Unified School District

Federal School Lunch Program Federal School Breakfast Programs at most schools
 A la Carte purchases After-school snack programs at some schools

<u>Student Meal Prices:</u>	Lunch	Breakfast
<u>Elementary School</u>		
Students: Full Price Meal	\$1.75	\$1.25
Reduced Price Meal	\$.40	\$.25
<u>Middle School and High School</u>		
Students: Full Price Meal	\$2.25	\$1.50
Reduced Price Meal	\$.40	\$.25
<u>All Schools</u>		
Milk is available a la carte	\$.30	\$.30

You are welcome to have lunch with your child. Adult Meal Price with milk is \$3.00.

Payment for Meals: Meals can be paid for by cash at the time the meal is purchased, by setting up an Advanced Paid Account or by using the approved free or reduced-price meal benefit. Advanced Paid Accounts are recommended instead of using cash at the time the meal is purchased. The Advanced Paid Account can be set up by the Food Services Manager at the school.

Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

Free and reduced-price meals are available for those who qualify based on gross household income (net income can be used if you are self-employed) and family size. Income guidelines used to determine eligibility change every year and are set by the federal government. Members of a household who are approved for Food Stamps are eligible for free meals. Check the brochure [Quick Tips for Completing a Free or Reduced-Price Meal Benefit Application](#) to learn more about how to apply. It is available at your school, on the district website on the Food Services Department webpage and from the Food Services Department.

IF YOU ARE A TUSD STUDENT LIVING APART FROM YOUR PARENTS you may be eligible receive a free or reduced-price meal. Please contact the Food Services Director at 225-4700 or your school's principal or your school's Food Services Manager. These staff can guide you through the process to determine if you qualify for a meal benefit.

Identification Required to Receive Meals at School

All students purchasing a meal or individual food or beverages during lunch and breakfast must identify themselves to the cashier. In elementary schools, most students tell the cashier their name and their name with identifying bar code is scanned by the cashier or they have a card with their name and a barcode on it that is scanned by the cashier. In middle schools and high schools, students generally have identification cards that include a bar code that identifies them when scanned. If the identification card is not used, the student must tell the cashier his or her name and the cashier looks up the student and then records their purchase by selecting or entering the identifying bar code information. At some middle schools and high schools, students who do not have their identification card and who know their matriculation number can use a keypad to identify themselves to the cashier or tell the cashier their matriculation number and the cashier enters it at the cash register.

Nutrition Education

Teachers and Food Service Managers collaborate to offer nutrition education in the classroom. Food Service Department Registered Dietitians and Nutritionists are available to discuss nutrition-related health topics to school community groups.

The Breakfast and Lunch Menu

The menu is available at the school and is on the TUSD website. The menus are planned as required to meet 1/3 of the general nutrient needs of specified age groups for lunch and 1/4 of the general nutrient needs for breakfast averaged over a week. Menus also coincide with the Dietary Guidelines of 30% or fewer calories from fat when averaged over a week.

Offer vs. Serve means a full meal is offered, but your child is not required to take all of it. However, there is a minimum to what they must take. This minimum differs at breakfast and lunch. Offer vs. Serve is a way to accommodate personal preferences and reduce food waste. It is used at all grade levels and with almost all menu options.

Customer input is important to us! Students are involved in testing menu items. All items on the menu were tested by at least 180 students district-wide at various grade levels and had at least a 70% acceptance level. Parent suggestions are always welcome and we really appreciate having a few parents volunteer to serve on our menu committee each year.

At least two entrée options are available at elementary schools each day. Middle and high schools offer several entrée options. Alternative Schools entrée options are available depending upon facilities available. Some sites do not have the Food Service personnel or the equipment needed to provide a varied menu or meal service.

Special Nutrient Needs

Students with **special nutrient needs** should be identified to the school nurse and Food Service Manager, who will assist in determining what accommodation can be made. A physician's prescription is required to consider a diet accommodation.

Fund-raisers

If your school community group or student group is interested in a fund-raising activity, TUSD Food Services Department may be able to assist you by helping you with product purchases, staffing your event and preparing and serving the food for your event. The Pima County Health Department has specific rules regulating fund-raising events at school and use of perishable foods. Temporary permits issued by the Pima County Health department are required

Questions? Call TUSD Food Services at 225-4700.

Notice of Nondiscrimination: Tucson Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of Race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, or disability in admission or access to or treatment or employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504, and Americans with Disabilities Act may be Referred to the EEO Compliance Officer, 1010 East 10th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85719, (520) 225-6442, or to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 1244 Speer Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80204.

TUSD Governing Board: Judy Burns, President; Dr. Mark Stegeman, Clerk; Bruce Burke; Miguel Cuevas; and Adelita Grijalva
Superintendent: Dr. Elizabeth Celania-Fagen

