

Elementary Meal Program FAQ's

How does my child deposit money into their meal account?

The student or parent brings cash or a check to school in a sealed envelope with the student's name, grade, and amount enclosed on the outside of the envelope. Elementary students will turn money into their classroom. **Through the SISK12 Parent Portal families have the option to make online meal payments through a secure system, ConnexPoint. Like other online payment systems a processing fee is applicable. ConnexPoint charges a 3.99% processing fee for transactions. To make an online meal payment simply login to the SISK12 Parent Portal, select the Meal Service Balance icon and follow the prompts.**

My child receives free meal benefits; how can they access their account?

Once approved for this benefit, at lunch the student will present their school ID to the cashier at checkout, just as all students do. At breakfast the student will give the cashier their name, just as all students do. The computer automatically processes the meal as free.

My child receives reduced price meal benefits; how can they access their account?

Once approved for reduced meal benefits, continue to deposit money into their meal account. At checkout the computer automatically processes the meal at reduced rates.

My child receives free and reduced meal benefits; what selections can be made for breakfast and lunch?

Free or reduced meal benefits pay for one breakfast and lunch per day. Extra milk or juice is not covered by meal benefits. Breakfast offers the choice of an entree, canned or fresh fruit, 100% juice and milk. **At least three** items (one of which must be fruit) must be taken to count as a breakfast. Some entrees count as two items. Examples: Egg Biscuit = 2 items; Mini Cinnis = 2 items. During lunch, the student must choose three to five different meal components—one of which must include a fruit or a vegetable to count as a lunch. The components include grain, protein, 2 vegetables, 1 fruit and 1 milk.

What is the price of school lunch and breakfast?

A school lunch costs \$2.40 for full price, \$.40 for reduced and is at no charge for free benefits. Full price breakfast is \$1.15; reduced and free breakfast is at no charge. Adult/Visitor breakfast is \$2.10 and Adult/Visitor lunch is \$3.60.

Are there additional items available to purchase?

Extra milk or juice can be purchased for \$0.45. Free or reduced meal benefits cannot be used to purchase ala carte or extra items. Students bringing lunch from home and wishing to purchase a juice or milk must have funds in their lunch account.

My child received meal benefits last year; will they automatically receive these benefits this year?

A NEW application MUST be completed EVERY YEAR. Your child will receive these benefits the first 30 days of school only or until a new application is processed, whichever comes first. To continue receiving meal benefits after this time, a new application must be approved for the current school year before the 30 days expire.

Can I apply for meal benefits during the school year?

You may apply for meal benefits any time during the school year. Applications may be picked up in the school office, downloaded off the school food service website ([Meal Benefit Application](#)) or call to request one be mailed or sent home with your student. Even if not qualified at the start of school, students may qualify later in the school year if the household income decreases or number of people living in the household increases.

Is breakfast available to all students?

All students are encouraged to participate in the breakfast program. Numerous studies stress the importance of eating breakfast.

Can my student charge their breakfast or lunch?

Parents should prepay all student meals in order to prevent charging. A negative balance triggers a nightly automated phone call to the parent until the balance is paid. A Tiger Meal of PBJ + Milk for lunch and Toast + Milk for breakfast is available for elementary students who owe \$20 and are not already on free meal benefits. Extras or ala carte can not be charged at any time. Reduced or free school meals are available to families who meet the income guidelines. Applications can be downloaded from the school food service website ([Meal Benefit Application](#)), picked up from your child's school, or call to have one sent home in a sealed envelope with your student.

How can I check my child's meal account and balance?

Student meal balances are available online through the SISK12 Parent Portal which can be accessed from republicschools.org or the district's free mobile app. Usernames for the Parent Portal are email addresses of parents/guardians that have been provided to the district. If a password has been forgotten simply select the "forgot password" button on the login screen and one will be emailed to you. You may also contact the Food Service Office by e-mail or phone to check a balance.