

Adult Meal Pricing

School Nutrition



COLORADO
Department of Education

Adult Meals

Adult meal prices must be reviewed annually to ensure they are sufficient to cover all costs for producing the meal. Student payments, federal or state reimbursements or other program revenues cannot be used to subsidize meals served to adults. Please compare your adult meal prices to the example below to determine compliance. If prices are not sufficient to cover all costs, an immediate increase in prices or nonfederal funds (general fund transfer) will be needed to cover price shortfalls.

School Food Service Employees:

Meals served to cafeteria employees, directly involved in the operation and administration of the breakfast and lunch programs (e.g., managers, cooks, servers, etc.), may be served at no charge and considered as a fringe benefit attributable to program costs. It is at the discretion of the local school district to charge food service employees for their meal; the cost of these cafeteria employee meals may be paid from program funds.

Other School District Employees and Adult Visitor Meals:

The benefits of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs are provided for meals served to students only. Federal or state reimbursement and USDA foods received by schools are based on the number of lunches served to students, no reimbursement or USDA foods are provided for meals served to adults. If meals are included to district staff members, as a fringe benefit or as part of the salary arrangement, the school district must provide a general fund transfer to cover this expense. All adult meals must be tracked and documentation kept for audits. The adult portion size should be the same as a student portion; if portion size is increased for adults, the price should be adjusted accordingly to cover all costs.

Minimum prices to charge for an adult meal:

Method #1 – Only use if in compliance with Paid Lunch Equity (PLE)	Breakfast	Lunch
Enter your highest paid <u>student price</u>		
Paid reimbursement rate	\$ 0.3100	\$ 0.3200
Value of donated foods (USDA foods)	\$ 0.2375	\$ 0.2375
Performance reimbursement rate (7 cent)		\$ 0.0700
Sub-total		
Adult meal price (rounded up to the nearest \$.05)		

OR

Method #2	Breakfast	Lunch
Free reimbursement rate	\$ 1.8400	\$ 3.4100
Value of donated foods (USDA foods)	\$ 0.2375	\$ 0.2375
Performance reimbursement rate (7 cent)		\$ 0.0700
Sub-total	\$ 2.08	\$ 3.72
Adult meal price (rounded up to the nearest \$.05)	\$ 2.10	\$ 3.75

**SY19-20 reimbursement rates are listed in this example*

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

- [USDA Adult Meal Pricing Guidance](#)
- Visit the School Nutrition [Financial](#) webpage.

September 2019

This institution is an equal opportunity provider