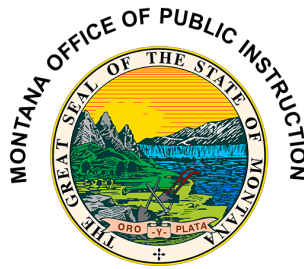


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ADULT MEAL PRICES

SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

Non-Program Adult Meal Pricing:

Adult meal prices are set at a local level and must be reviewed annually to ensure they are set high enough to cover all costs for producing the meal.

OPI School Nutrition Programs provides and recommends the following price for districts to set for adult meals (to ensure they are compliant and covering the overall cost of adult meals).

	Adult Lunch Price	Adult Breakfast Price
Federal Free Reimbursement	\$4.78	\$3.05
Performance Based Reimbursement	\$0.09	
Value of USDA Foods	\$0.46	
Total	\$5.33	\$3.05

In non-pricing programs (CEP schools), the adult meal price in the chart above must be used as it reflects the required amount of reimbursement received for a free lunch under Section 4 and 11 of the National School Lunch Act, plus the per-meal value of both entitlement and bonus donated foods, or for breakfasts, the rate established for free meals under Section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act, plus the value of bonus commodities. School Food Authorities (SFAs) may alternatively set the adult meal price according to the SFAs documented meal costs as maintained on file.

If cost data is not available, pricing schools (non-CEP) may set the minimum adult price to reflect the highest price charged to students paying the school's designated full price, plus the current value of federal cash and donated food assistance (entitlement and bonus) for full price meals by using the SY2026-27 [Adult Meal Pricing Tool](#).

Nonprofit School Food Service Fund and Adult Meal Payments:

Revenue from the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs (student payments, federal or state reimbursements or other program revenues) cannot be used to subsidize adult meals ([FNS Instruction 782-5 Rev. 1](#)). The purpose of federal assistance is to provide nutritious meals to school children to safeguard their health and well-being. However, schools are welcome to sell meals to adults if the overall cost of non-program adult meals is being collected back into the Non-Profit School Food Service Account (NSFSA) to cover the overall costs of adult meals.

SFAs must ensure that revenue is credited to the NSFSA from either the adult payment, non-federal funds (like the district's general fund), or a combination of both. If the district covers any staff meals, as a fringe benefit or as part of the salary arrangement, the school district must credit the NSFSA from a general fund (or other non-federal funds) to account for the adult meal costs. Alternatively, the SFA can ensure adult meal costs are covered by paying an equivalent or greater portion of school nutrition program expenses using non-federal funds. All adult meals must be tracked, and documentation kept on file for review or audits.

Under subsection 12(q) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and 7 CFR 210.14(f), SFAs are required to ensure:

- All revenue from the sale of nonprogram foods accrues to the non-profit school food service account; and
- Revenue available to support the production of reimbursable school meals does not subsidize the sale of nonprogram foods.

Nonprogram foods include any non-reimbursable foods and beverages purchased using funds from the nonprofit school food service account. This encompasses all foods sold in schools as well as adult meals, foods sold outside of school hours, or any foods used for catering or vending activities.

Program Adult:

Meals served to school food service program adults may, at the discretion of the school food authority, be furnished at no charge. These meals are a program benefit, and their cost may be fully attributed to and supported by the nonprofit food service operation. Meals served to any adult may not be claimed for reimbursement or counted towards the donated foods entitlement. The determination of individuals, positions involved, and the degree to which their services are attributed to the nonprofit food service program operations is left to state and local officials.

OPI SNP provides guidance for defining Program adults as being directly involved in the operation and administration of the School Nutrition Programs (i.e., food service directors, cooks, servers, cashiers taking meal counts in the cafeteria for entire meal service or lunch period, etc.) and has completed or is working to complete required annual USDA school nutrition professional standard training hours.

For questions, please contact School Nutrition Programs at 406-444-2501.

This institution in as equal opportunity provider.