

Meal Payment and Charge Policies, 2024-2025

Meal Prices*

	Elementary		Middle Scho	ol	High School	
Breakfast	\$	4.00	\$	4.25	\$	4.50
Reduced-Price Breakfast		0.30		0.30		0.30
Lunch		5.75		6.25		6.75
Reduced-Price Lunch		0.40		0.40		0.40
Milk		1.00		1.00		1.00
Lactose-Free Milk		1.50		1.50		1.50

*Schools which are part of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) will continue to receive meals at no charge to students. Students at CEP schools who wish to purchase additional meals or items a la carte must use cash or their pre-paid accounts.

Second meals and a la carte items may be available for purchase on an as-available basis using cash or the pre-paid account. Individual milk servings and a la carte items are not provided under the Free and Reduced Program or the CEP program. Student Nutrition cannot provide milk only to Free/Reduced students. If a student wishes to have milk only, it must be purchased.

Meal Payment Options

Students may purchase meals with cash at any time, or parents may prepay on their student's account:

Online with a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover Credit or Debit Card at: https://parentconnect.asdk12.org

In person, at the school cafeteria with cash or check.

Mail a check to: Student Nutrition ATTN: Finance

1307 Labar St.

Anchorage, AK 99515

Please make checks payable to Anchorage School District and ensure your student's full name and ID or date of birth is in the memo line. Checks should be written out in blue or black ink only.

Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Anchorage School District (ASD) provides free and reduced-priced meals for elementary, middle and high school students under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Nutritious meals are served every school day. Free and Reduced Eligibility information is available at https://www.asdk12.org/nutrition.

The fastest and most secure way to apply is through the School Café portal at <u>www.schoolcafe.com/anchorage</u>.Paper applications are also available in English, Spanish, Samoan, Tagalog, Hmong, Russian and Korean and are downloadable from <u>https://www.asdk12.org/nutrition</u> on the "Free and Reduced Meal Application" tab or by request from your school registrar.

Lunch Account Balances

To view balances, Log in to Parent Connection (<u>https://parentconnect.asdk12.org</u>), Select Student, then on the left side menu, click ASD Cafeteria. *Instructions available on our website at <u>https://www.asdk12.org/nutrition</u>. Detailed transaction history for daily purchases and meals received can be accessed by creating a School Café cafeteria account at <u>www.schoolcafe.com/anchorage</u>.

Meal Charging Policy

To ensure students have access to healthy, nutritious meals, ASD allows meal charging (negative account balances) for full meals, meaning no student (unless a "Do Not Charge" is in place) will be turned away from receiving meals, regardless of balance due (unless a "Do Not Charge" is in place). This is for emergency situations only and should not become routine. To minimize disruption in service, please keep your pre-paid account current or have your student pay with cash.

When a student's account balance falls below \$0, the student will receive a regular meal and charges will accrue to their account. Students with a negative account balance may not purchase a second meal, any a la carte items or individual servings of milk.

Parents may receive an automated email notifying them of the balance due. Elementary students will also receive a monthly reminder of a balance due to bring home. If the balance due escalates, email frequency may increase, and automated phone calls may also be utilized as an attempt to ensure notice has reached the parent.

Middle and High school parents need to check balances on Parent Connection or on the ASD Mobile App. It is your responsibility to regularly review your student's account balance and communicate with your child. The email reminders will come every 4 weeks. We recommend checking the balance weekly or signing up for low balance notifications to track your student's charges.

Parents may request a "Do Not Charge" form by emailing <u>snadmin@asdk12.org</u>. Once the completed and signed form is returned, a block will be placed on the student's account, preventing them from receiving meals from the school cafeteria. The block will remain in place until another request is submitted to remove it.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement (English)

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- 2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.