



July 2020

Regardless of what phase we're in or what school instructional model we're using, we will continue to provide nutritious meals for our students. Food will be served with additional safety and sanitation procedures in place. Breakfast and lunch meals will be offered at all sites in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Lunch and Breakfast Program.

Below is a summary of what meals will look like within the different school instructional models:

Face-to-Face Learning

- For breakfast, students will receive meals in a portable container at a designated location on the school campus. A reimbursable meal (grain/fruit) will be prepackaged with students having the option to select milk. Student rosters will be used to record students at the point of service.
- For lunch, students will come to the cafeteria by class to receive meals in a portable container. A reimbursable meal (meat/grain/fruit) will be prepackaged with students having the option to select a vegetable and/or milk. Times will be staggered and social distancing maintained. Students will be recorded by name or number at the point of service by the Cafeteria Staff. If the students have IDs, they may be scanned the point of service.
- All meals will be eaten in a location that adheres to group size and social distancing recommendations to the maximum extent possible. If cafeterias are used for multiple groups, a partition or divider will be used to separate the groups. Meals may be eaten in the classroom or outside, if supervision and weather conditions permit.
- While we have always followed and enforced food safety standards and hygiene protocols, we will be taking additional steps to increase frequency of cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting. All serving areas and high-touch surfaces will be disinfected between each group use.
- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after every meal.
- Students may bring food from home.

Virtual Learning

- Schools will provide grab and go breakfast and lunch meals at scheduled times.
- Grab and go meals will consist of frozen, refrigerated, and shelf-stable items that meet all required meal pattern requirements without the option of offer versus serve. Frozen items will need to be kept frozen until ready to be eaten and heated to an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees before consumption.
- Students attending school on a rotating schedule will have the option to take home a breakfast and lunch meal on the day they are participating in face-to-face learning to be eaten on days they are scheduled for virtual learning.
- Students participating in Virtual Jefferson will have the option to pick up a breakfast and lunch meal from the school in which they are enrolled on Tuesdays and Thursdays at school specific times. Meals picked up on Tuesday will be for Wednesday and Thursday and meals picked up on Thursdays will be for Friday, Monday, and Tuesday. Meals are provided only for the days that students are scheduled for virtual learning. Schools may request students to pre-order meals for pickup. Students are encouraged to be present at the time of meal pickup. If the student is unable to be present then a Parent Pickup Form will need to be completed.
- Students should bring a clean, reusable bag to transport meals from the school to home.
- Students will be encouraged to pre-pay for meals, if applicable.

Students with a Medical Statement to Request School Meal Modifications Form on file at the school will receive a breakfast and lunch meal within the prescribed diet order regardless of the learning model in which the student is participating. Please note parents will need to provide any necessary meals for students until the form is processed by the district's Registered Dietitian, and acceptable food substitutions are available at the school. Medical Statement to Request School Meal Modifications Form and scheduled menus can be found at <https://www.jpschools.org/Page/294>.

Meal Benefits

Meals provided at the 13 Grab and Go Meal Sites during school closures due to COVID – 19 operated under a different federal program. Some students may have been receiving meals at no cost that will not be eligible under the National School Lunch Program without a meal benefit application.

With the economic conditions shifting due to the novel coronavirus, more students may now qualify for meal benefits. To qualify, families should submit a Free and Reduced Meal Application. Families can submit a new meal application at any time during the school year should their household income change. Families will have access to an online Free and Reduced Meal Application at <https://fsa.jpschools.org/>, and we encourage families to utilize this system as it offers an efficient and safe way for parents to submit an application and start receiving benefits faster. Simple-to-use wizards will walk you through each field. Paper meal applications will also be available at schools. More information on free and reduced price meals can be found at <https://www.jpschools.org/Page/294>.

Students enrolled in one of the schools listed below, will not need to apply for meal benefits for that child since breakfast and lunch will be offered at no charge to all enrolled students. These schools are participating in the USDA Community Eligibility Provision program during the 2020-2021 school year: Airline, Alexander, Audubon, Benson, Birney, Bissonet, Boudreaux, Bridgedale, Bunche, Butler, Chateau, Cherbonnier, Clancy, Collins, George Cox, Dolhonde, Douglass Community, Ellender, Ellis, Estelle, Gilbert, Grand Isle, Green Park, Greenlawn, Gretna Academy, Gretna Middle, Harahan, Mildred Harris, Hart, Hazel Park, Hearst, Helen Cox, Higgins, Joseph, Janet, Jefferson, Jefferson Chambers, Johnson Gretna Park, Keller, Kerner, Laureate, Lincoln, Marrero Middle, Matas, McDonogh #26, Metairie Academy, Pittman, Riviere, Ruppel Academie Francaise, Schneckenburger, Solis, St. Pierre, St. Ville, Strehle Community, Terrytown, Thibodeaux, Truman, Washington, Woodland West, Woodmere, Woods, and Worley.

An initial Direct Certification Notice will be mailed to households of students who have been approved to receive free meals on the basis of participation in the SNAP, FDPIR, or FITAP Programs. They are not required to complete a meal application. If the notice does not include the name of every child in your family who attends a Jefferson Parish School, families should contact our office at 349-7687 or 844-349-7687 so that we can add the additional child to the household group. If families do not wish to receive this benefit, they may contact the Food Services Department to have their child's status changed. As additional students are directly certified for free meals throughout the school year, notifications will be sent to the school to send home.

Students enrolled at all other Jefferson Parish schools who are not directly certified for free meals will need to complete a new Free and Reduced Meal Application for the 2020-2021 school year. If a student qualified for free or reduced meals during the 2019-2020 school year, he or she may continue to receive his or her meal benefit through Thursday, September 24, 2020 or until a 2020-2021 Meal Application is processed, whichever occurs first. Students approved for reduced price meals are charged \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. If a Free and Reduced Meal Application is not submitted and processed by **Thursday, September 24, 2020**, the student will be required to pay full price for meals beginning Friday, September 25, 2020. Students paying full price for meals are charged \$1.00 for breakfast and \$1.75 for lunch.

Jefferson Parish Schools has a **"No Charge Policy"** for meals served to paying students or for extra sales items purchased in school cafeterias. Students required to pay for their meals will be offered a snack meal if they do not have either a positive account balance or cash to pay for their meals.

Students enrolling for the first time for the 2020-21 school year in a non-CEP Jefferson Parish School and who do not have siblings who were enrolled last year, are required to pay full price for meals beginning on the first day of school until their meal application is processed.

Newly enrolled siblings of students who attended a Jefferson Parish School during 2019-20 school year are temporarily eligible to receive meals based on their sibling's status IF the status was based on income OR if someone in the household receives SNAP, FDPIR, or FITAP benefits. It is the parent's responsibility to notify the Food Services office if they have a newly enrolled child that qualifies for this benefit.

Families are encouraged to pre-pay for their child's meals by using www.mypaymentsplus.com. The website also allows families to check student purchases and monitor meal account balances. Meal payments cannot be made using MySchoolBucks.