

Frequently Asked Questions

About Free Lunch and Breakfast:

1. Do all students get a free lunch?

Yes! All Northville students can get a free lunch and breakfast for the school year 2023-2024. Please see information below on what is included in a lunch and breakfast sections.

2. If my student is already getting free lunch, do I need to fill out a free and reduced application?

If your student has qualified in the past or you think your student may be eligible for free and reduced meals now, **you should still fill out the application**. Qualifying for free and reduced meals also qualifies students for other benefits such as free or reduced athletic fees, testing fees, summer school, PEBT funds and etc. If you do not fill out an application you will not be able to qualify for these benefits.

3. What is included in a free lunch?

A free lunch included five components; a protein, grain, fruit, vegetable and milk. Most entrée items include two of these components (for example; pizza is a grain and a protein or an entrée salad will contain vegetables and protein). Your student must take three of the five components to make a full meal and qualify for the free lunch. If they do not want to take three items, they will be charged ala carte.

4. What is included in a free breakfast?

A free breakfast includes the components; a grain, fruit and milk. Your student must take two of the three components to make a full meal and qualify for the free breakfast.

5. Why do I have to take specific components? I won't eat them so it's a waste.

Because the lunch program is a federally funded program there are guidelines we must follow. These guidelines are set by the USDA and have been researched to provide the healthiest meals possible to the nation's children. The child nutrition reauthorization act is passed by congress and must be adhered to. If you feel changes need to be made, contact your US congressperson with your concerns, they may be included in the next reauthorization.

6. Why don't you offer something other than milk? Isn't water healthier?

Milk is required has one of the components and provides essential nutrients for a growing body. Therefore, milk cannot be substituted for another beverage unless your student has an allergy to liquid milk. If this is the case please have your physician fill out the food substitution form (you can find it on the food service webpage). We will then provide a substitute that is comparable in nutrients to milk (most often lactose free milk). Water and juice are not comparable substitutions.

7. My student is still hungry why can't they have larger portions?

Portion sizes have been set based on the USDA guidelines for students age groups. The portion sizes are appropriate for most students. Students should take all components to ensure they are getting enough to eat. If they are still hungry we offer additional meals, entrees and snacks at ala carte prices.

8. Are these meals healthy?

All the meals served by our food service department meet the nutrition requirements and standards set by the USDA for school meals. What is considered healthy food is different for every person, we do our best to offer a variety of meals that are healthy and palatable for most students, while meeting the guidelines. Our Nutrislice program provides the best estimate of the basic nutrients that are included in each meal. Please know these are as accurate as possible, however due to vendor issues some items may be switch with similar items without notice, which could affect nutritional information minimally. In addition, many of our secondary schools provide made to order items which are customized for each student which can also affect the nutritional content.

9. Since meals are free can my child just take a milk, they don't want the meal?

No milk alone is not free. If you child wants a milk only, they will have to purchase it at ala carte prices.

10. How will breakfast work at my students' school?

Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria before school at the High School and Middle Schools. High School breakfast begins about 6:45 and ends when schools starts. Middle School breakfast starts at 7:45 and ends when school starts.

Elementary breakfast will be served in the classroom at the beginning of the school day.

11. Do I need to preorder breakfast and lunch?

You need to preorder breakfast and lunch for your student if they attend an elementary school or are in Pre-K. Middle School and High School students do not need to preorder.

12. Where and how do I order my elementary students' meal?

Meals can be ordered via Nutrislice. You can find a link on the district's website under the food service tab, along with detailed instructions.

13. What happens if my student is late for school?

We have made arrangements for student who arrive on late buses. If you are bringing your child to school late and they need a breakfast, notify the front office when signing in.

14. What happens to the money already in my students account?

If your student has money on their account from previous years it can be used to by snack items, milk or extra entrees. It will remain on their account until they leave the district.

15. How can I add money to my student's account?

Money can be added for extra purchases via the parent portal or by sending cash or check to school with your student.