



July 22, 2026

To Harleton ISD Board Members,

The Cafeteria does an annual mandatory Adult Meal Calculation Worksheet. We usually get all the information by early July from the USDA, but this year it was finally released to the Region 8 to use last year's rate.

The minimum charge for Adult Lunch this year will be \$5.34 instead of \$5.07 (last SY prices) and Adult Breakfast will be \$3.52 instead of \$3.39 (last SY Prices). We are sending a copy of '26-27 worksheet that we used to come up with the automated prices. We are also sending the Reimbursement rates to show where the amounts are coming from.

Thank you

It's a great day to be a Wildcat!

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Adult Meal Calculator Worksheet

This worksheet provides the information needed to calculate adult meal prices using both approved methods. Choose the method of calculation (see the *Administrator's Reference Manual (ARM)*, Section 19, *Meal Pricing* for additional information on which method to use). If the rate applies, record the rate in the *Amount CE Receives* cell. If using Method 1, record the local student paid charge in the designated *Local Student Paid Charge* cell. If using Excel, this worksheet will automatically calculate the amounts in the *Minimum Adult Charge* and *Total Federal Funds* cells. All amounts are carried to 4 digits and must be rounded up when determining the adult meal price. Non-pricing programs must always use Method 2. TDA posts the current reimbursement rates at SquareMeals.org.

Use the applicable rates for the school year when the adult meal prices will apply.

Method 1 Lunch	
Federal Funds/Reimbursement Rate	Amount CE Receives
Paid Reimbursement Rate	
Performance-Based Rate	
Severe Need Lunch Rate	
USDA Foods Rate	
Total Federal Funds Received	\$ -
Highest Local Student Price Charged	
Minimum Adult Charge	\$ -
Method 2 Lunch	
Federal Funds/Reimbursement Rate	Amount CE Receives
Free Reimbursement Rate	\$ 4.76
Performance-Based Rate	\$ 0.09
Severe Need Lunch Rate	\$ 0.02
USDA Foods Rate	\$ 0.47
Total Federal Funds Received	\$ 5.34
Minimum Adult Charge	\$ 5.34

Method 1 Breakfast	
Federal Funds/Reimbursement Rate	Amount CE Receives
Paid Reimbursement Rate	
USDA Foods Rate (Add if USDA Foods are used at breakfast)	
Total Federal Funds Received	\$ -
Highest Local Student Price Charged	
Minimum Adult Breakfast Charge	\$ -
Method 2 Breakfast	
Federal Funds/Reimbursement Rate	Amount CE Receives
Free Reimbursement Rate	\$ 2.54
Severe Need Breakfast Rate	\$ 0.51
USDA Foods Rate (Add if USDA Foods are used at breakfast)	\$ 0.47
Total Federal Funds Received	\$ 3.52
Minimum Adult Breakfast Charge	\$ 3.52



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL SCHOOL

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING *Lunch Program* EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Programs > National School Lunch Program > Reimbursement Rates

Reimbursement Rates for NSLP

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Healthy Meals Incentives

Latest News

National School Lunch Program Reimbursement

These rates are effective from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Lunch

- Paid - \$0.45
- Reduced - \$4.36
- Free - \$4.76

Lunch - Severe Need

Contracting entities serving at least 60 percent free and reduced-price lunches under NSLP for at least the first three months of school year 2024-2025 will receive a 2-cent supplemental lunch reimbursement. In addition, contracting entities certified to receive the performance-based cash assistance will receive an additional 9 cents added to the lunch reimbursement. These additional reimbursements will be applied and paid automatically to eligible contracting entities through the Texas Unified Nutrition Programs System (TX-UNPS).

After School Care Program

- Paid - \$0.12
- Reduced - \$0.65
- Free - \$1.30

Breakfast

- Paid - \$0.42
- Reduced - \$2.24
- Free - \$2.54

Breakfast - Severe Need

Individual schools may qualify for Severe Need Breakfast reimbursement to supplement the regular free and reduced-price breakfast reimbursements. Within a CE, some sites may be eligible for severe need funding and others may not. For a site to be eligible in SY 2026-2027, at least 40 percent of its total lunches served in

Reimbursement Rates for NSLP

school year 2024-2025 must have been free or reduced (minimum three months operation). There are instances where a new school may qualify for Severe Need Breakfast reimbursement. For additional information, email Food and Nutrition at squaremeals@texasagriculture.gov or call toll-free at (877) TEX-MEAL. Reimbursement rates including severe need are as follows:

- Reduced - \$2.75 (\$0.51 severe need reimbursement included)
- Free - \$3.05 (\$0.51 severe need reimbursement included)

USDA Foods Published Rate Of Assistance

1. SY 2026-2027 Commodity Meal Rate – The published rate for the period July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027 is \$0.3200 per meal for NSLP schools.
2. The adjusted 2026-2027 NSLP rate to account for USDA's 12% provision dollars and the 20M breakfast dollars is \$0.47, up 2 cents from SY 2025-2026.
3. Texas does not have a separate rate and will follow the national rate once published.

Historical Rates of Reimbursement

Go to [USDA FNS Rates of Reimbursement](#) to see reimbursement rates for past years.

Local Wellness Policy Requirements

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National School Lunch Week 2025

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Texas Farm Fresh

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USDA Foods Challenge

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