

Chatham School District

Adult Meal Pricing Policy

The National School Lunch Act of 1946 and Child Nutrition Act of 1966 aim to safeguard the health and well being of the country's children. For those participating school districts which claim reimbursement in the NSLP federal assistance is intended to meet the nutritional needs of children. Conversely, program meals served to adults are not eligible for cash reimbursement under authorizing federal legislation and regulations. School Food Authorities (SFA) must ensure that reimbursements, children's payments (N/A), and other food service revenues (i.e., state reimbursements), and USDA Commodity Foods do not subsidize program meals served to adults.

The USDA defines adult meals as NSLP meals served to adults. An adult meal consists of all the same components in a reimbursable meal offered to students. Program meals served to teachers, administrators, and any school based staff members who are directly involved in the operations of the school are considered eligible for adult meals.

The Chatham School District must price adult meals according to federal regulations. USDA FNS requirements stipulate that the price of an adult meal must fully cover all the costs incurred in the purchase of, transportation and production of the meal, including USDA Food fair market value. Historically, when establishing the adult meal price, the SFA have commonly used a \$.50 cent markup to the current paid meal prices. As the reimbursement for paid meals and the per-meal value of the USDA Foods have increased, a \$.50 cent markup method to price adult meals are no longer in compliance with the FNS instruction.

The new Chatham School Districts formula for establishing adult meal prices will be based on the use of the NSLP Adult Meal Pricing Tool to calculate the minimum price for a school lunch or breakfast. This tool uses the federal reimbursement, USDA Food values, and local costs to determine the price.

Beginning the school year 2026-2027 the adult meal prices will be calculated as follows:

	Breakfast	Lunch
Current Federal Reimbursement Rate	\$ 4.09	\$ 7.74
Current USDA Commodities Value	\$.46	\$.46
Local Food Transportation And Production Costs	\$.45	\$.45
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.65

All staff meals will be recorded and deducted from the employee's paycheck the following month of the service provided.

Meal prices are subject to change annually.

Policy updated and effective on August, 26th 2026

Written by, Christine L. Ramey, Angoon Food Services Director

Approved by the School Board _____

