

**Flatonia ISD Child Nutrition Department Meal Charge Policy**  
*Effective 6/20/2017*

The goal of the Flatonia ISD Child Nutrition Department is to provide all children with nutritious meals while maintaining the financial integrity of the program and minimizing embarrassment of children with meal charges.

***Meal Price:***

Elementary Lunch (PK-8) – \$2.30  
Secondary Lunch (9-12) – \$2.50  
Adult/Visitor: Breakfast - \$2.50; Lunch - \$3.50

Breakfast is provided free of charge to all students.

***A la Carte/Extra Items:***

Entrée – \$1.75  
Veggie/Fruit/Bread - \$0.75  
Juice/Bottled Water - \$1.00  
Gatorade - \$2.00  
Cookies/Chips - \$0.50  
Ice Cream - \$1.00

***Charging Meals:***

To avoid charging meals, parents/guardians are encouraged to monitor and/or pay their child's meal account online by signing up at [www.lunchmoneynow.com](http://www.lunchmoneynow.com) or by sending money with the student.

Students may charge a maximum of ten (10) meals. Texas Law does not require School Districts to provide alternate meals to students in the event that charges are not paid; therefore, after the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) meal is provided without payment, Flatonia ISD will not provide meals to the student until his/her account is paid in full.

A la carte and extra items cannot be charged and must be paid in cash or deducted through the student's account. A permission form must be on file from the parent/guardian allowing these items to be deducted. Additionally, a student who owes money on his/her account will not be permitted to purchase a la carte or extra items until he/she has paid the balance in full.

Charging will not be allowed in the three weeks prior to the end of the school year. Money remaining in the student's account will be carried forward to the next school year.

***Payment Reminders:***

Once the student nears his/her charging limit, the Cafeteria Manager and/or Child Nutrition Director will provide any of the following reminders in an effort to help the student continue to receive school meals:

- Verbal reminder to student
- Note with account summary sent home with student
- Phone calls to parents/guardians
- Note with account summary mailed home

Parents may request a history transaction report detailing their student's meal account from the cafeteria manager, Child Nutrition Director, or by signing up and using the Lunch Money Now program offered. Payment can be made in the Child Nutrition Office or by adding money to the student's account.

The Child Nutrition Program is not allowed to carry over unpaid charges from year to year. Parents/guardians are responsible and must pay off their child's account prior to the end of the school year.

***Free & Reduced Meal Applications:***

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the Child Nutrition Department at (361) 865-2941 ext. 533 with any questions related to completing a meal application. The FISS website ([www.flatoniaisd.net](http://www.flatoniaisd.net)) also has helpful resources.

A new application must be filled out every year. Federal regulations require every student receive an application on the first day of registration, whether eligible or not. Meal applications must be submitted within the first thirty (30) operating days of the school year and will be processed within the first ten (10) operating days of the receipt of the application in the Child Nutrition office. Applications will be date stamped once received.

Students will carry over the prior year's eligibility status for the first thirty (30) operating days. For 2017-2018, the 2016-2017 meal eligibility status will be carried over through October 4, 2017. If an application is not received by this date, then the student's status will change to full price on October 5, 2017. The student will remain on full price status until an application is received and a new status is determined. Students new to the district will have full price status until an application is received and processed and an eligibility status is determined. Charges for all students incurred during the application process will accumulate until the application is processed and approved. Students are expected to continue to pay until status has been determined. Once status is determined, the balance may be reversed based on the status of eligibility.

Parents/guardians should contact the Child Nutrition Office if an application has already been turned in but an eligibility status letter has not been received.

***Refunds:***

A request for refund by a parent/guardian should be submitted in writing to the Cafeteria Manager. The Cafeteria Manager will submit the request to the Child Nutrition Director, who will process the refund for a check to be mailed. The process will take three (3) to four (4) weeks. Any amount over \$5 will automatically generate a refund for withdrawn students or graduates.

***Delinquent Charges:***

Outstanding balances will be monitored and managed by the Child Nutrition Office with appropriate payment reminders provided. Students with delinquent charges will be given another income application to complete in the event the student may qualify for free or reduced meals. Parents/guardians should make every attempt to promptly pay charges so that meal service is not interrupted for his/her child. In the event that payment cannot be promptly made, parents/guardians should contact the Child Nutrition Office to discuss repayment dates and options and obtain approval by the Child Nutrition Director. Unpaid meal charges will be carried over to the next school year.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the Child Nutrition Office at (361) 865-2941 ext. 533 with any questions.

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