



MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT NUTRITION SERVICES

Your 2026–27 Family Guide to School Meals

12509 N Market St. Bldg. E, Mead, WA 99021 • (509) 465-6100 • nutrition@mead354.org

Welcome back! This newsletter has everything your family needs to know about school meals this year, how to pay, what things cost, and how to apply for meal benefits. It only takes a few minutes to read, and it answers the questions we hear most often.

REAL FOOD, MADE FOR KIDS

We believe good food helps kids learn better. Every meal is **free of artificial dyes and high-fructose corn syrup**, lower in sodium and sugar, and built around fresh fruits and vegetables including many favorites made from scratch, like our *Mac & Cheese*, *Cajun Chicken Pasta*, *Chili*, *Spaghetti with Meat Sauce*, *Chicken Alfredo*, and *Nacho Cheese Sauce*. Students help us taste-test new recipes throughout the year before they make it onto the menu!

Local & regional produce: we're partnering again with Whitestone Mountain Orchard for whole organic apples in every school, plus seasonal local produce like asparagus, blueberries, blackberries, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, and parsnips.

FIND THE MENU IN SECONDS

The free **My School Menus** app lets you check breakfast & lunch menus, filter out allergens, and translate menus into other languages — on your phone, tablet, or computer: mead.healtheliving.net

Apple iOS



Scan or search "My School Menus"

Android



Scan or search "My School Menus"

AT THE MEAL LINE

We serve breakfast and lunch that meet federal nutrition standards, including produce from our Farm to School program. Check your school's website for meal service times.

- **Elementary students** need to say their **first AND last name** loud and clear for the cashier — a little practice at home keeps the line moving fast!
- **Middle/High school students** need to memorize their **5-digit student ID#** (in PowerSchool or on their class schedule) or scan their ID badge so they get more time to eat.
- **Breakfast** is an important start to the day and makes sure your child is ready to learn. All of our schools offer a variety of breakfast choices every morning.

MEAL PRICES 2026–27

	Breakfast	Lunch	Reduced Breakfast	Reduced Lunch	Milk Only (no meal)
Elementary	\$1.85	\$2.95	no cost	no cost	\$0.65
Middle / High	\$2.00	\$3.50	no cost	no cost	\$0.65
Adults	\$4.00	\$5.75	n/a	n/a	\$0.65

ADDING MONEY TO YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT



Scan the QR code to go straight to PowerSchool and deposit money into your child's meal account. Funds are usable within 4–6 hours, and there's no service fee for card payments. Prefer another way? Pay at your child's school office, send cash or a check in an envelope labeled with their name and the amount, or visit: meadschools.powerschool.com

Meal charging & negative balances: see the attached procedure for full details on how our district handles unpaid meal charges.

MEALS AT NO COST FOR STUDENTS AT THESE SCHOOLS

If your child attends **Brentwood, Colbert, Creekside, Evergreen, Farwell, Meadow Ridge, Shiloh Hills Elementary, Mountainside Middle, or Mead Learning Options**, breakfast and lunch are offered at **NO COST** for all students under state law HB 1878 & HB 1238.

NUTRITION & PHYSICAL EDUCATION POLICY

District Policy & Procedure 6700 covers nutrition and PE guidelines district-wide — your school may have additional practices in place. Read [Procedure 6700](#) and [Policy 6700](#). More on Healthy Celebrations: mead.healtheliving.net

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Every child deserves access to a healthy school meal, including students with disabilities that require dietary accommodations (like allergies or digestive conditions). We accommodate students as soon as we are informed of a disability but must still receive specific documentation from a recognized medical authority.

Next step: return a completed & signed [Special Dietary Accommodations](#) form to your school nurse. Students with life-threatening conditions must have physician orders and a health care plan on file before attending school.

APPLY FOR BENEFITS ONLINE (CNEEB)

One short application can unlock a lot: meal benefits, Summer EBT, reduced or waived fees for other programs, and funding for your school. It takes just a few minutes, and you can apply anytime your household situation changes.

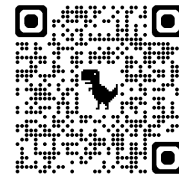
- Household members do not need to be U.S. citizens for children to qualify and completing the application has **no impact on immigration status**.
- No computer at home? Visit our office at 12509 N Market St. Bldg. E, Mead, WA 99021, we have a station ready for you. Paper applications are also at every school office and the district office.
- After we process your application, you'll get an email with your approval/denial letter — keep it! It's your documentation for reduced or waived fees elsewhere.

Apply Online



mead.familyportal.cloud

Translated Applications



<https://mead.healtheliving.net/what-we-do/meal-applications/>

What This Means For You

- If you haven't been notified of meal benefits through direct certification, please complete an **Application** (QR code above or mead.familyportal.cloud → Apply for Benefits).
- Your application helps determine how much State and Federal funding your school receives.
- It may also qualify you for reduced/waived program fees, Chromebook insurance, and Summer EBT.
- Completing it will not affect your eligibility for no-cost meals.
- Have students in both a CEP/Provision 2 school and another school? Fill out an application to see if your other students qualify too.

DIRECT CERTIFICATION

If your child was directly certified for free/reduced meals by Washington State, and you already received a notification email or letter from us in August 2026, no application is needed.

Important: if other students in your household did NOT get a notification, please call Nutrition Services right away at 509-465-6100.

Students with free or reduced-price benefits are covered for **one full breakfast and one full lunch per school day**. This doesn't include à la carte items or milk purchased without a meal.

REDUCED OR WAIVED PROGRAM FEES

To receive reduced or waived school program fees, give written permission to share your student's free/reduced meal status. Keep your benefit notification letter from Nutrition Services and share a copy with your child's school, or fill out the attached Parental Release of Information Form and send it to our office.

Questions? We're happy to help — call **509-465-6100** or email nutrition@mead354.org.

Sincerely, Nutrition Services

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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