

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

Food Service Department

1105 N Grant St • West Lafayette, IN 47906 • Phone (765) 746-0421 • www.wl.k12.in.us

Service FAQs

- **What constitutes a reimbursable meal?**
 - At lunch we are required to “offer” students five components with each meal. Students are required to take three of those five components to count it as a “reimbursable meal”. Students are also required to take a serving of fruit or vegetables to count as a reimbursable meal. The components offered are:
 - Milk (must be skim or 1% for flavored milk)
 - Meat/Meat Alternative (meat, cheese, yogurt)
 - Grains (80% of grains served must be “whole grain rich” including breading, cookies, cereal, pretzels, etc.)
 - Fruits & Vegetables (there is a requirement for certain subcategories of vegetables according to their color and nutritional content.)

- **Why was my student charged more than the cost of lunch?**
 - If your student was charged more than the cost of lunch, you can check their account purchases via [Skyward](#). Additional charges are usually the result of a student buying an a la carte item, this is anything outside of a reimbursable meal which includes water, a duplicate of an item, extra entrees, ice cream, desserts, and chips. If you see a charge that seems to be a mistake, please contact the Food Service Office at (765) 746-0421.

- **How do I apply for meal assistance?**
 - You can apply using the Skyward Family Portal. You can also apply any time during the year using this [document](#). You do not need separate applications for each student.

- **Why is the adult meal more expensive than the student meal?**
 - The National School Lunch Program has very specific guidelines on meal pricing for both students and adults. Unlike meals provided to students, there is no federal reimbursement for an adult meal. Therefore, the money brought in from the sale of an adult meal must be charged at the price per student meal plus the student reimbursement rate.

- **Does my student have to take milk?**
 - **No.** The federal regulations for school meals require milk to be offered as a component of a reimbursable school breakfast or lunch. However, students may decline up to two components at lunch and one item at breakfast.

- **I’m on free lunch, why doesn’t my student get their milk for free?**
 - Your students' milk is included with their free reimbursable meal. Purchasing milk alone is considered to be “a la carte”, which is not free. If your student

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To provide delicious, nutritious meals that fuel positive attitudes, bodies, and minds while encouraging healthy eating habits that last a lifetime.

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decides to grab just a milk or a second milk, they will be charged at the a la carte price of \$0.60.

- **My student is lactose intolerant, can they get water instead of milk?**
 - No, per the USDA, water is not an acceptable substitution for milk. Vanilla and Chocolate Soy Milk is available upon request for lactose intolerant students. Students will be charged \$.60 extra at the a la carte price if they choose a small water instead.
- **How can I add money to my students account?**
 - You can add money via West Lafayette Skyward, logging in with the link [here](#). Check out this step by step [video](#) for your mobile device for any help you may need.
- **Can I transfer lunch money from one child to another?**
 - Yes, you can transfer lunch money from one student to another by contacting the Food Service Department at (765) 746-0421.
- **How do I request a refund from the food service department from my students' lunch account?**
 - If your student has withdrawn or has graduated from the school, you may fill out this [form](#).
- **Why can't my student buy French fries a la carte?**
 - The USDA has strict guidelines called Smart Snack Standards as to what can be served a la carte at school. Due to the nutritive values of french fries, they cannot be sold outside of a reimbursable meal.
- **What if my child has an allergy?**
 - If your student has special dietary needs, allergies, etc. we will happily provide a meal appropriate to their needs. Please contact the West Lafayette Community Schools Food Service Director and Registered Dietitian, Courtney FitzSimons via email (fitzsimonsc@wl.k12.in.us)
- **What is on the menu?**
 - You may check your students' menu at their respective school [here](#). It is updated monthly with the upcoming monthly menu and can be printed.
- **Does free lunch status cover breakfast?**
 - Yes

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