

Anoka-Hennepin Child Nutrition Program

The Child Nutrition programs are managed by the Anoka-Hennepin School District. Meals are prepared fresh daily by our experienced staff who serve approximately 25,000 students every day. The Child Nutrition department operates independently from the general education fund and maintains a self-sustaining budget.

The USDA National School Lunch Program sets the sodium, fat and calorie guidelines for all meals served in our schools. Our mission is to prepare nutritious meals that meet or exceed those guidelines and to create a safe and positive environment for our guests to enjoy their meals and for our staff to work in. We strive to meet and exceed food handling, sanitation and safety guidelines and to be fiscally responsible with our budget, to the district and our community.



What meals are available at school?

Breakfast

Breakfast is free for all kindergartners! Breakfast is offered in all schools. Breakfast includes a choice of entrée, milk, and a serving of fruit and/or juice. Some schools allow students to bring their breakfast to their classrooms.

Lunch

Lunch is offered to all students in grades PreK-12. Lunch includes an entrée, milk, and fruits and vegetables. Depending on the entrée, side items may be available as well. Students have many items to choose from at lunch each day.

Online menu information is available at ahschools.us/menus

Afterschool snacks

Adventures Plus and many schools participate in the After School Snack Program.

A la Carte Items

An A la Carte item is any item purchased separately from, or in addition to, a breakfast or lunch meal. Milk, unless it is part of a complete breakfast or lunch, is an A la Carte item available for \$.50. In order to purchase any A la Carte item, including milk, the student must have money in their account to pay for the item or items.

How do I apply or know if my child qualifies for free or reduced price meals?

A new application for free or reduced meals needs to be completed each school year even if you have qualified in the past. Families that are at or below 185% of the federal poverty level may qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. Some students that receive MFIP (MN Family Investment Program) or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits may be automatically qualified for free meals by the state of Minnesota. These households will receive a letter from Child Nutrition to let them know that they have already been qualified for free meals and that no further application is needed.

Households not automatically qualified will receive a letter each year in early August with instructions on how to complete an online application for free and reduced-price meals or how to request a paper application. Families are responsible for paying for meals that are eaten before a child's application is approved. The Application for

Education Benefits (free and reduced meals) can also be completed online after August 10th each year. Go to ahschools.us/freereduced. A letter will be mailed to you notifying you if you have been approved or not.

How much do meals cost?

2020-21 School Year Prices

	Free	Reduced	Paid
Kindergarten Breakfast	Free	Free	Free
Grades PK, 1-5 Breakfast	Free	Free	\$1.45
Grades K-5 Lunch	Free	Free	\$2.50
Grades 6-12 Breakfast	Free	Free	\$1.60
Grades 6-12 Lunch	Free	Free	\$2.65

*The state of MN pays for reduced-price meals.



How do I pay for my children's meals?

All students have a meal account that is created automatically when they are enrolled in the school district. Each student uses their student ID number either at a keypad or shows the barcode to the cashier, to access their account when they go through the breakfast or lunch line. Students that are approved for free or reduced meals need to put money in their accounts only if they will be purchasing milk or other a la carte items, or if they have accrued a negative balance prior to being approved for free or reduced meals.

Students that pay full price for meals must have money in their accounts in order to purchase meals or A la carte items. Funds can be added to a student's account online by logging into your parent AH Connect account on www.ahschools.us. Click on the **My Student Information** icon, or you can send a check or cash to the school. There is a new online payment provider starting this year, SchoolPay. Parents can view meal history and purchases online here also. There is no fee to make online payments. Please put the student's name and ID number on the check and send with a note so the funds can be added to the correct account.

What if my child needs a diet accommodation?

Diet accommodations are governed by state and federal regulations. Lactose reduced or soy milk is available to students with a written request from the parent/guardian. The written request needs to be submitted to the CNP supervisor at the students' school.

All other modifications require a completed diet modification request signed by a licensed Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Clinical Nurse Practitioner (CNP), Osteopathic Doctor (D.O.) or Physician's Assistant (P.A.C.) and a parent/guardian.

The Diet Accommodations Request form and the Milk Modification form can be found online at www.ahschools.us/dietform. Fax the completed form to the CNP office at 763-506-1253 or mail it to the Child Nutrition Program, 2727 N. Ferry St., Anoka, MN 55303. Requests for approval may take up to 10 days to be processed. Additional time may be required at the beginning of the school year or for complex diet requests.