



# IT'S BACK! FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH FOR ALL STUDENTS! 2024-25

## INCOME ELIGIBILITY FORMS ARE STILL REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS TO RECEIVE:

- Reading/Math Recovery
- More paraprofessionals and teachers
- Instructional coaches
- Family engagement activities
- Field trips and educational guests
- Intervention & Tutoring
- Teaching supplies and materials
- Counselors and Social Workers
- School nurses
- Professional learning for staff
- Technology
- Credit recovery program

### **Families who qualify may also receive:**

- *Discounts on cable internet*
- *Summer EBT funds*
- *Backpack program*
- *Preschool programs*
- *Free college applications*
- *Free college admissions tests*

### Dear Bobcat Families:

As you may have heard in the news, the Michigan School Meals Program and the USDA have combined resources to provide **FREE MEALS** for all GBCS K-12 students this year! This program provides one free breakfast and lunch per day, per student. These free meals must be complete, including a fruit or vegetable. Families will still be responsible for the cost of any extras, snacks or individual purchases, including drinks.

**It is of GREAT IMPORTANCE that families still fill out the Education Benefits Form as described below.**

Your [Family Portal](#) account is still available to deposit funds and track spending if you would like to give your student the option to make additional purchases. Students may also bring in cash or check to have deposited, but **elementary students will not be able to receive change**, so please plan accordingly.

Breakfast will be provided on half days and full days. Lunch will be provided on FULL days of school only. Menus for each building will continue to be available on the [Nutraslice](#) website and/or mobile app.

**We are very excited to feed all students for FREE AGAIN!** Some menu changes may be still be necessary, as supply chain issues have not completely subsided.

Please contact our office if you have any questions! Thank you for your continued support!

Karen Smith,  
GBCS Dining Services Director

Please fill out the 2024-25 Form!

## EDUCATION BENEFITS FORM

[CLICK HERE](#)



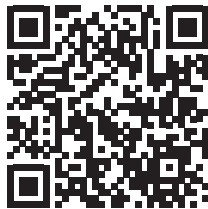
## EACH STUDENT WILL RECEIVE ONE FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PER DAY:

- Go to the Family Portal, login, and go to “apply for benefits.” We still need to collect benefits info.
- Every student must take a fruit or vegetable every day.
- Extra items such as drinks (including milk outside of a complete meal), snacks, additional entrees, and ‘a la carte’ items will still require payment.

## WHY DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE INCOME INFORMATION IF MEALS ARE FREE?

Previously, your family’s income information from a form was used to determine which families qualify for free or reduced lunches, but is also used for **MANY** other benefits issued to the school and students/families each year. **All GBCS families should now fill out the same form:**

## Education Benefits Form



Scan this QR code with your mobile device.

## SUBMIT THE FORM TODAY!

### Encourage your student(s) to eat breakfast!

Studies show that students who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math.
- Score higher on standardized tests.
- Have better concentration and memory.
- Be more alert and focused.
- Attend school daily and experience less acute illnesses.
- Maintain a healthy weight.



Grand Blanc Community Schools is excited to offer **FREE** breakfast and lunch to all students starting this new school year thanks to the Michigan Healthy School Meals Program!

Even though meals will be provided for free, it’s important for families to continue sharing household income information for our schools to receive full access to federal and state funding for educational programs.

- Go to the [Family Portal](#) and login.
- Click on “Apply for Benefits.”
- Fill out the **Education Benefits Form**
- If you prefer to fill out a paper form, see your building office.



## FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FOR ALL STUDENTS!



# FAMILY Q & A

## FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH FOR ALL STUDENTS

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### Q. What is the Michigan School Meals Program?

A. *Michigan School Meals* is a state-funded reimbursement program that provides students attending a Michigan public-school, including Grand Blanc Schools, with breakfast and lunch at no cost to families.

### Q. Do families have to do anything to receive these free meals?

A. No. Students K-12 will begin receiving free meals again on the first day and for all school days in the 2024-25 school year.

### Q. Do families still need to fill out an Education Benefits Form?

A. Yes. Each household is responsible for completing the *Education Benefits Form*. Without this information, our district could lose important state and federal funding for educational programs.

### Q. Where can I find this form?

Dining services has already provided instructions within the Family Portal site at <https://grandblanc.familyportal.cloud/>. You can also add funds to student accounts while you are there, if you would like your student(s) to be able to make additional purchases.

### Q. Is there a form to fill out in person instead of online?

Yes. Paper forms for this program will be made available at your building office.

### Q. Will breakfast and lunch be served on half days?

A. No. On half days, students will be offered breakfast but not lunch.

### Q. Will students receive meals from Michigan School Meals on weekends, during the summer, or on other school breaks?

A. No. Meals are only offered on days when school is in session. There are other programs, such as the Summer Food Service Program (Meet Up & Eat Up) and Child and Adult Care Food Program, that may offer meals on days when school is not in session. To find other food resources in our area, family can call 2-1-1 or call the Food and Other Resources Helpline at 888-544-8773.

### Q. Do preschool students receive free meals?

A. Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) classrooms will continue to receive meals at no cost to families. Tuition-based Children's Garden will not be included at this time.

### Q. Do fully virtual students receive free meals?

A. No. Students must be in a physical building to receive free meals.

***If you have additional questions, please reach out to  
GBCS Dining Services at (810) 591-6928.***

