



## UMASD- Elementary Schools Welcome to Food Service 2024-25

Para ver esta información en español, visite [UMASD.org](http://UMASD.org), Departamentos, Servicio de alimentos, Carta de bienvenida de la escuela primaria - Español

ثم انقر فوق "الأقسام" ، ثم انقر فوق "خدمة الطعام" ثم انقر فوق النسخة ، [org.umasd](http://org.umasd) لقراءة هذه المعلومات باللغة العربية ، يرجى الانتقال إلى موقع العربية.

Please visit the Food Service Department page of the district website ([UMASD.org](http://UMASD.org)), then click on "Departments", then click on "Food Service") to find breakfast and lunch menus and answers to many of your Food Service questions.

**Breakfast will continue to be FREE to ALL students for the 24-25 school year!**

**In addition, students who qualify for reduced lunches will be considered FREE for the school year!**

Students will be Free, Reduced or Full Pay beginning on the 1st day of school based on what your student's status was last year. This will continue for the 1st 30 operating days of the 24-25 school year. If your student was free or reduced last year and you haven't been Directly Certified and notified by Food Service or filled out and received approval about your application by Food Service then your student will be changed to full pay on October 10, 2024.

If you have received an email from Food Service that your household was "Directly Certified" you do not have to do anything. If you haven't been "Directly Certified" and you believe, even remotely, that you may be free or reduced, then fill out an application at [www.schoolcafe.com](http://www.schoolcafe.com).

If you are new to the district and you have not received a letter from UMASD Food Service that your student(s) was directly certified they will not automatically be free or reduced from your old district. You will need to fill out an application on [schoolcafe.com](http://schoolcafe.com). Please contact us if you have any questions.

To apply you will have to set up a new account (if you don't have one) and then fill out the application. You can apply on your computer or your smartphone. If you apply on your smartphone you can apply, submit and track your application status right on your smartphone. If you apply on the computer you will get an email back from the Food Service office telling you your student(s) designation within a day or two. Food Service uses the primary email that you list on your Student Information Update for all communication about applications, balances, and anything else we need to contact you about. PLEASE make sure the School District has your up-to-date email address at all times. If there is no email address associated with your household we will send you the letter in the US Mail.

The main office of your student's school has English and Spanish applications for households without internet or smartphone access. If you need an application in any other language please contact the Food Service office at 610-205-8814.

At [www.schoolcafe.com](http://www.schoolcafe.com) you may also check balances, set up automatic payments and low balance alerts, set snack restrictions, and make payments. Note- to avoid the \$1.95 transaction fee you can send in a check with your student and have them bring it to the cafeteria. For younger grades put it in a labeled envelope so your student's teacher will send it to the cafeteria. Make checks payable to "UMASD Food Service".

Pennsylvania law prohibits Food Service from discussing money owed by a student directly to them (unless they ask or are in High School) so we direct all communications about money owed by students to households via email, letter and phone calls. In order to save your time as well as Food Service's time PLEASE be aware of your students account and what they owe and help us to keep balances owed to Food Service to a minimum. UMASD Food Service does not deny a student a meal when they have no money on account or cash in hand, but those meals will

be expected to be paid for and we will contact households. If you are having problems paying for your students' meals please contact Penny Bartlett at [pbartlett@umasd.org](mailto:pbartlett@umasd.org) or 610-205-88504 for help- there are many ways we can try to help!

### **Scanners at the Registers**

Food Service uses scanners at the registers. This means that students need a barcode when they purchase anything from the cafeteria. Elementary students have at least 2 ID cards with their name and barcodes on it with their ID #. One card is used at lunch and is managed in the buildings. The 2nd card is needed for any student who is going to get breakfast. The card should be pinned/connected via lanyard on the inside/outside backpacks or in the holder that some of the schools use for dismissal info. This will ensure that the card is available for the breakfast line. You can help by discussing with your students that when they are in line for breakfast they should start getting the card available to the cashier to scan it. Food Service will not remove the card- just scan it in place so it will be available the next morning. The ID cards that come with school pictures may also be used at the registers. Since your students's ID never changes they can continue to use their old cards each year for this purpose. Incoming Kindergartners will get these cards when school starts.

### **Meal Pricing**

Breakfast- Elementary =FREE to all!  
Lunch Elementary = \$3.00- Reduced price = Free

### **Please Read on for Additional Important Food Service Information...**

The Food Service Department's primary goal is to provide your child with healthy, attractive, and tasty meals which comply with all state and federal nutritional guidelines and regulations.

Following the standards of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, most of our grain based products such as bread, pizza crusts, and sub rolls are whole grain rich, all milk is low-fat or fat free and we do not fry any foods. Please strongly encourage your child to take complete balanced meals that include fruits, vegetables, and milk.

Starting off the day with a good breakfast helps your child stay alert and focused in class which improves academic performance. Please remember that a complete breakfast is available at every school. Check the website for menus.

The monthly menus are posted on the district website and are also posted on each school's web page. Milk, vegetables, and fruit are always included in the cost of a complete meal.

Follow this link to read an article about the significant changes to children's diets that have been made by the National School Lunch Program and individual school's Food Service Departments:

<https://sph.washington.edu/news-events/news/obama-era-school-nutrition-policy-led-better-diets-students-faces-changes>

The UMASD Food Service Department is here to serve the students, so please feel free to contact me anytime with compliments, concerns, questions, or suggestions at 610-205-8804 or [pbartlett@umasd.org](mailto:pbartlett@umasd.org).

Have a great 2024-25 school year!  
Penny Bartlett, Food Service Supervisor

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Please see the full Non-Discrimination statement on the Food Services pages of the UMASD website. 2**