



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

## Office of Child Nutrition

1

- Adult Meals
  - Program Adults
  - Regular Adults
- Possible Food Cost increases
- Child Nutrition Grants



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

2

2

## Program Adult Meals

- Defined as adults who are directly involved in the operation and administration of the school nutrition program.
- May, at the discretion of the school food authority, be furnished a meal at no charge.
  - Cost of program adult meals can be fully attributed to, and supported by, the nonprofit food service operation.
  - Program adult meals are not mandatory.
- Program adult meals can not be claimed for reimbursement or counted towards the donated foods entitlement.



## Program Adult Meals

- Determination of individuals, positions involved, and the degree to which their services are attributed to the nonprofit food service program operations is left to State and local offices.
  - Most common program adult positions are cooks and point of service operators.
  - Others can be included if your county defines considers the position to meet the definition of “directly involved in the operation and administration of the school nutrition program.”



## Regular Adult Meals

- Breakfasts and lunches served to teachers, administrators, custodians and other adults must be priced so that the adult payment is sufficient to cover the overall cost of the meal, including the value of any USDA entitlement and any bonus donated foods.
  - If not using actual cost per meal data, the adult charge should be at least the amount of reimbursement received for a free lunch or breakfast plus the value of any USDA entitlement or bonus donated foods.
  - 2025 USDA Entitlement rate is \$.30, and the bonus rate is \$.15.
  - 2025 cost of adult meals, if not using actual cost per meal data.

	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>
• Free Rate –	4.45	2.84
• USDA Commodity Rate –	.45	.15
	<u>\$4.90</u>	<u>\$2.99</u>



## Possible Food Cost Increases

- Food Dye Ban
  - Commonly used food dyes have been banned from school meals starting August 1, 2025.
    - Schools cannot use products that contain the banned food dyes.
    - Manufacturers have until January 1, 2027, to remove the dyes from products manufactured or sold in WV.
  - Some commonly used items that contain the banned dyes may not be available.
  - Substitute items could be more costly.
  - Manufacturers are working to reformulate products to not include the banned food dyes. Some of the more popular items will be ready by the state of the 2026 school year.



## Possible Food Cost Increases

- Cancellation of the Local Food for Schools Funding.
  - The original distribution of 1.2 million dollars was not affected and has now been fully paid out to school districts who submitted qualifying invoices.
  - The second distribution, that would have been 2.7 million for school districts has been cancelled.



7

## Child Nutrition Grants

- State Revenue Matching Grants
  - Received in April 2025
  - Must be used on allowable child nutrition equipment, training, or wellness activities.
- Non-Traditional Feeding Grants (Backpack Grants)
  - Will be received in September 2025.
  - Amount is based on enrollment and needy percentage.
  - 2 year performance period.
  - Must be used to provide food to children outside of the normal school day.
  - Can be used to send food home with students during normal school breaks.
    - Thanksgiving break
    - Christmas break
    - Spring break
  - Can be used to provide take home food during unanticipated school closures.



8

## Child Nutrition Grants

- Grant extensions
  - High number of extension requests each year.
  - Working on a grant summary to send out to food service directors quarterly to help remind them of the grants and expiration dates.
  - If you need to request an extension, please provide the following information in an email:
    - What is the remaining balance?
    - How do you plan to spend the remaining balance?
    - When do you expect the remaining balance to be fully expended?
- Extension requests can be sent to:
  - Tony Crago, [acrago@k12.wv.us](mailto:acrago@k12.wv.us)
  - Jarahnee Armstrong, [jarmstr@k12.wv.us](mailto:jarmstr@k12.wv.us)



9

## Questions??

Tony Crago  
[acrago@k12.wv.us](mailto:acrago@k12.wv.us)  
 304-558-3396



10