

School-Based Child Nutrition Programs Rates of Reimbursement

Effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

National School Lunch Program					
		Less Than 60%	Less Than 60% + 9 Cents**	60% or More*	60% or More* + 9 Cents**
	Paid	\$0.44	\$0.53	\$0.46	\$0.55
	Reduced-Price	\$4.20	\$4.29	\$4.22	\$4.31
	Free	\$4.60	\$4.69	\$4.62	\$4.71
The maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price lunch is \$.40.					
* The higher rate of reimbursement for lunch (60% or more) applies if 60% or more of the lunches served by an SFA during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price.					
** Additional 9 cents requires a one-time menu certification					

School Breakfast Program			
		Non-Severe Need	Severe Need *
	Paid	\$0.40	\$0.40
	Reduced-Price	\$2.16	\$2.64
	Free	\$2.46	\$2.94
The maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price breakfast is \$.30.			
* The higher rate of reimbursement for breakfast (Severe-Need) applies if 40% or more of the lunches served at the site in the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price.			

Special Milk Program			
	All Milk	Paid Milk	Free Milk
Pricing Program Without Free Option and Nonpricing Programs	\$0.2675		
Pricing Program With Free Option		\$0.2675	Average cost per ½ pint milk

After-School Snacks in After-School Care Programs		
	Paid	\$0.11
	Reduced-Price	\$0.63
	Free	\$1.26
The maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price after-school snack is \$.15.		

Food Distribution Program
 Planned Assistance Level (PAL) for NSLP = \$0.45 (per lunch rate of \$0.3050 PLUS the 12% provision dollars and the \$20M breakfast dollars for NSLP)

Illinois Free Breakfast and Lunch Programs
 \$0.04 per each free breakfast and/or lunch

A la Carte Equivalency Factor - for use in FSMC/Vendor contracts
 Federal free lunch reimbursement (more than 60% + 9 cents) plus PAL plus Illinois free lunch reimbursement
 SY 2025-26 Contract – \$5.03
 SY 2026-27 Contract - \$5.20