



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Food & Nutrition Services

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Elizabeth Fisher, RDN
Director of Food and Nutrition
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July 30, 2024

Dear Vernon Families,

We are writing to inform you of important updates to the Food & Nutrition Services provided by Vernon Public Schools. **Starting August 29, 2024, Vernon Public Schools will once again be charging for both breakfast and lunch at certain schools.** This is due to a loss of state funding that was used to provide free breakfast for all students. The meal prices at Lake Street School, Center Road School, Vernon Center Middle School, and Rockville High School will be increasing effective August 29, 2024. The meal prices for the 2024-2025 school year are listed below.

Students at Maple Street School, Northeast School, and Skinner Road School will continue to receive breakfast and lunch at no charge during the 2024-2025 school year as part of the federally-funded [Community Eligibility Provision](#). Families with students in these schools do not need to submit a meal application unless you have a student in the same household that attends a different school.

2024-2025 Meal Prices	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	\$2.00	\$3.25
Middle	\$2.25	\$3.50
High	\$2.50	\$3.75

The Vernon Public Schools [Meal Charge Policy](#) (Policy 3542.2) allows a student with insufficient funds to charge meals to their account. Second meals and a la carte snacks cannot be charged. We request that you pay your meal account balance as soon as possible. Please visit www.myschoolbucks.com to add money to your student's account, or you can pay by cash or check at the school.

Free and reduced-price school meals are still available to those that qualify. To find out if you qualify, you must submit a meal application to the Food & Nutrition Services Department. [Federal income eligibility guidelines](#) are used to determine eligibility. **For the 2024-2025 school year, all students that qualify for reduced-price meals will receive meals at no charge thanks to funding from Connecticut.** The meal application for the 2024-2025 school year will be available on the [Food & Nutrition Services website](#). Meal applications are accepted at any point during the school year, and a **new application is required every year**. The online meal application is now open for the 2024-2025 school year.

If you or someone in your household participates in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Family Assistance (TFA), your students should be automatically eligible for free meals and you do not need to submit a meal application. You will be notified of your student's eligibility by the Food & Nutrition Services Department by mail at the end of August. Please make sure your mailing address is up to date at the school.

Lastly, there is a 30-day carry over period that allows meal benefits from last school year to be honored 30 days into the new school year. Please submit a new meal application before October 1, otherwise your student will be expected to pay for meals.

We are looking forward to bringing your students locally-sourced, fresh, and healthy meals. For more information about our program, menus, and meal applications, please visit our website: <https://www.vernonpublicschools.org/departments/food-services-menus>.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Fisher, RDN
Director of Food & Nutrition Services
Vernon Public Schools
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Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.