

## **Policy for Charging Student Meals Updated 6/28/2023**

Charge limits have been set for the 2023/2024 school year. James A. Garfield borrowing limits: Adults- \$14.25 Full Meals- \$10.50 Reduced Meals- \$1.20 Free Meals- \$0.00 -This equates to three meals.

### **Breakfast and Lunch prices for the 2023/24 school year:**

High/Middle School Lunch - \$3.50

Elementary School Lunch - \$3.00

Adult Lunch - \$4.75

Milk - \$.55

Breakfast - All buildings - \$1.75; Adults \$2.50

Parents will be contacted through telephone and email attempts for charge amounts due. Students with charge amounts exceeding the limit will be addressed on a case by case basis.

The District uses a Point of Sale System for school meal reporting. As students exit the line, they scan their finger to ring out at the cash register. If your child enters the meal line and does not have money for their meal, they will be charged for the meal. The District does not offer alternate meals or take a meal from students who enter the meal line.

Students without funds in hand, on the account or have a negative balance are not allowed to charge any ala carte items, including ala carte milk.

If a positive balance remains on the account of a graduating senior, or student leaving the district, that balance will be transferred to a sibling. If there are no siblings, the funds can be donated to unpaid meal debt or refunded upon request. To request a refund for values \$5.00 and above, please email [tknauer@jagschools.org](mailto:tknauer@jagschools.org). Refunds will only be issued if all outstanding student fees are paid in full. \*Please note, if a request is not received by the end of the school year for seniors or students leaving the district with account balances of \$5.00 or less, the funds will be transferred to the donation account to help families with unpaid meal debt. Amounts greater than \$5.00 will be refunded by check. \*

There are a number of ways to provide payment for school meals. Parent/Guardian may send a check with the child or mail a check to the building or board of education. They may also want to consider signing up for a-  
[www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) account to make payments as well as view student transactions and receive low balance notifications. If a check is sent it should be made payable to the James A. Garfield Local School District, please put cafe as well as the student name and grade in the memo line.

### **Policy for Free/Reduced Meals:**

James A. Garfield Local School District has a program policy for free and reduced meals for students unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program. Each school office and the board of education has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines will be used for determining eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the Federal Guidelines are eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

You may apply online at <http://jaglocal.schoollunchapp.com>; **download a paper form at**  
<https://www.jagschools.org/documents/cafeteria%2Ffood-service-documents/10115> **or visit any school**  
**or board of education to obtain a paper copy.**

To apply for free and reduced-price benefits, households should fill out the application and return it to the school or submit online. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. A complete application is required. Households which currently receive Special Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits (SNAP, formally known as food stamps) or Ohio Works First (OWF) funds for a child must provide the child's name, the SNAP or OWF case number and signature of an adult household member on the application. Households which do not receive SNAP or OWF funds must provide the names of all household members, the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the adult signing the application or state "none" if the adult does not have a Social Security Number, the amount and source of income received by each household member, (state the monthly income) and the signature of an adult household member. If any of this information is missing, the school cannot process the application.

**FREE HEALTH CARE:** Families with children eligible for school meals may be eligible for FREE health care coverage through Medicaid and/or Ohio's Healthy Start & Healthy Families programs. These programs include coverage for doctor visits, immunizations, physicals, prescriptions, dental, vision, mental health, substance abuse and more. Please call 1-800-324-8680 for more information or to request an application. Information can also be found on the web at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/familychild.stm>. Anyone who has an Ohio Medicaid card is already receiving these services.

The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program official. To discourage the possibility of misrepresentation, the application forms contain a statement above the space for signature certifying that all information furnished is true and correct. Applications are being made in connection with the receipt of federal funds. Schools or other officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year. Deliberate misrepresentation of information may subject the applicant to prosecution under applicable state and federal laws.

Households will be notified of the approval or denial of benefits.

Foster children are categorically eligible for free meal benefits regardless of the household's income. If a family has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for such meals for them, contact the school for more information.