

FAQ's – Hot Lunch

Jenison Christian School has joined Allendale Christian School's lunch program. It's a National School Lunch Program (NSLP) which is in collaboration with the USDA. The USDA regulates the school meal patterns and provides guidelines for serving size and nutrition standards. Each meal must consist of the five components as determined by the federal regulations. It is an Offer versus Serve program.

What are the FIVE components?

- Meat/Meat Alternatives (cheese, yogurt, etc.)
- Grain
- Fruit
- Vegetable
- Liquid Milk

Every lunch must offer five components; however, a child does not have to get all five components. A child must select at least three of the components with one being a fruit or a vegetable.

What is Offer versus Serve?

Offer versus Serve is a concept adopted by the congress in 1975. It allows students to select foods they prefer to reduce waste. Under this concept, a student is offered all five components; however, they must choose at least three of the components with one component being a fruit or vegetable. This will qualify as a reimbursable meal.

What are the Lunch Prices?

Reimbursable Lunch	\$2.85
Extra Entrée with Reimbursable Lunch	\$1.15
Staff	\$5.57

À la Carte Items

Milk only	\$0.50
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Food Allergies

If your child has any food allergies, please let us know! We want to work with you to provide safe options for your child. Parents may call Rebecca Bruggink at hotlunch@allendalechristian.org.

What is a reimbursable meal?

A reimbursable meal is a lunch that has at least three of the five components with one of the components being a fruit or a vegetable. For each reimbursable meal that is served, our school will receive money from the State, whether the lunch is free, reduced, or full pay.

What is the Meal Magic Student Account System?

It is designed like a debit account. It eliminates the need for students to carry cash to school. It allows you to deposit money to a student account for use on any day, eliminating the morning lunch money hassle. It is simple, convenient, and designed to improve our services. It improves the speed of our lunch lines, giving students more time to eat. Lastly, it protects our identity and privacy of students receiving meal benefits.

How do I set up a student account?

An account can be set up at <https://allendalechristian.familyportal.cloud/>. Each child will need their own account. Please set the account up prior to the beginning of the school year to avoid processing delays. A nominal fee may apply for deposits made into the account. A \$10 fee will be assessed for all NSF and invalid bank account numbers. You have the ability to set up your own "low balance email" through the Family Portal. Click on "Notification" to set that up.

Can I still send a check to school?

Absolutely! Meal deposits may be sent to school with your student in an envelope. Please label the envelope to Food Services and include the student's first and last name and teacher's name. Envelopes may be dropped off in the hot lunch box in the rotunda. Please send a check to school by August 21 to avoid processing delays. If you prefer, your deposit can be mailed to:

Allendale Christian School
Attn: Food Services 11050 64th Ave
Allendale, MI 49401

Please include your students first and last name on the check. A \$15 fee will be assessed for all returned checks.

