

The Batavia City School District is committed to providing every student enrolled in our schools with all the tools they need to succeed, including nutritious meals that everyone can enjoy together. We are enthusiastic to announce that for the 2018-19 school year, we have qualified for a school meal program option to offer one school breakfast and one lunch every day, at no charge, to all students!

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program is offered through the New York State Child and Nutrition Department. Batavia City School District families will be asked to complete one (1) CEP Household Income Eligibility Form. The CEP Household Income Eligibility Form is available in the school calendar, online at the Batavia City School District Nutritional Service web page at: <https://www.bataviacsd.org/domain/28> and will also be available at all school open house events. The completion of this form is essential for the District. Many state and federal programs use socioeconomic data (that is, household and income information) to determine eligibility for their programs. In addition primary state funding calculations use socioeconomic data. In order to continue to receive such funding and grants, the income information still needs to be gathered from our student population.

**Effective September 6, 2018:**

1. Every student enrolled in the Batavia City School District will receive the first breakfast and the first lunch at no cost each school day regardless of the family’s household income.
2. Additional meals are not covered under the program and it is the families’ responsibility to pay for those meals and payment is due at the time of purchase.

	Jackson and John Kennedy	Middle School and High School
Second Breakfast	\$1.35	\$1.45
Second Lunch	\$2.10	\$2.30

3. All a la carte items will remain the same in that families are responsible for payment. Again, it is the cost of one (the first) full breakfast and one (the first) full lunch that are fully covered under the CEP program.
4. There is NO charging allowed for additional meals or a la carte items.
5. Students can still bring their lunch if they want to.
6. Milk is included with the first breakfast and the first lunch or any additional paid meals.
7. Milk purchased separately (for students that bring their lunch) will be charged at a la carte prices, which is \$0.60.

**Below are questions and answers regarding the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).**

**Question: How does the program work?**

The New York State Child Nutrition (CN) Department began this program several years ago with federal funding backing the program. School Districts must be eligible based on their specific poverty rates and have to apply to CN for approval. Batavia City School District is eligible because it has an Identified Student Percentage of 40 percent or higher according to building level data. An Identified Student refers to any student certified to receive free meals by any means other than the submission of individual paper applications, such as SNAP and Medicaid.

**Question: What impact does this program have on school taxes?**

There is no impact on school taxes. The General Fund budget (which the taxpayers vote on each year) is completely separate from the self-sustaining School Lunch Fund.

**Question: If I have questions about the Household Income Form or if I received a letter this school year indicating that my children are approved for free meals, who can I contact?**

Please contact the Food Service Department at 585-343-2480 x1007. The office will be able to assist you with any questions or paperwork.

**Question: Who do I include as members of my household and what if my monthly income is not always the same?**

You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share your income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (people that you do not support, who do not share income with you and your children and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do NOT include them. List the income that you normally receive if your monthly income varies. If you have lost your job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

**Question: Does this program change the quality of food that can be served?**

There is no impact to the quality of food that is served. The District must still continue to follow all food and dietary guidelines that are set by the New York State Child Nutrition Program.

**Question: What constitutes a complete meal for breakfast and lunch?**

The District complies with the Federal Program: ChooseMyPlate.gov. For breakfast, the District offers two grains, a fruit and a milk. Students must choose at least three of the four offered items, one of those chosen must be the fruit. For lunch, the District offers a protein, a grain, a fruit, a vegetable and a milk. Students must choose three of the five offered items, one of those chosen must be the fruit or vegetable. The following two videos are very informative and helpful in understanding the complete meal requirements that qualifies for a reimbursable (complete) meal.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kn0xlmQsaG8>  
<https://youtu.be/-J1hmmy1OB4>

La Crosse Schools: Know the Rules - Offer Versus Serve  
Choose My Plate Dietary Guidelines

**Question: May a student be charged for an incomplete meal if the student refuses to select the required components for a complete meal?**

The District will offer a complete meal to each student in order to qualify for the CEP fully funded reimbursable meal. However, if a student refuses to take the complete meal then the student will be charged a la carte prices for the foods selected on their tray.

**Question: My child has a positive balance on his/her "MySchoolBucks" account. What happens to the current balance?**

The balance on the My School Bucks account can be used for a la carte purchases or for any additional/second meals. If you would like a refund of your account balance please send an email to Susan Presher at [slpresher@bataviacsd.org](mailto:slpresher@bataviacsd.org) or a written letter to Susan Presher, Nutritionals Services Director, 260 State Street, Batavia, NY 14020.

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