#### **School Payments**

# Easy as 1, 2, 3



#### 1. Visit Our Website

Go to <u>linqconnect.com</u>. Access from any computer, tablet or mobile device.



#### 2. Create A Free Account

Our user-friendly portal makes signing up easy and quick.



#### 3. Add Funds

Add funds securely to student accounts.

Mobile App also available













Dr. Rebecca Farley • Director of Schools

Mr. Chris King • Board Chairman

#### **Dear Parents and Guardians:**

We are pleased to announce that your school will continue to implement an option available to select schools in Tennessee that participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. It is called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The Community Eligibility Provision, a key provision of The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, allows the nation's highest poverty districts and schools to serve all students free meals without the burden of collecting household applications. This alternative saves districts and schools time and money by streamlining paperwork and administrative requirements. CEP gives foodservice professionals more time to focus on preparing nutritious meals their students will enjoy and gives students more time to eat those meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. Because all students receive meals at no charge, individual children at CEP schools no longer must worry about the stigma associated with free or reduced-price status. And most importantly, by offering all students a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, CEP helps boost participation, helping schools ensure more students come to class well-nourished and ready to learn. For more information, visit:

#### http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/community-eligibility-provision

What does CEP mean for my student(s) who attend a participating school? In a CEP school, <u>all</u> students receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, regardless of family income.

What if my child changes schools? Your child is eligible for free meals at the school where he/she is currently enrolled. If he/she eats meals at or transfers to a non-CEP school during the school year, you may be responsible for meal charges. If transferring to a non-CEP school, a free/reduced application is required to be considered for free or reduced-price meals.

Withdrawn students and/or graduating students with money left in the child's meal account? Please request any money left in your child's meal account no later than 10 days after the last day of enrollment. Requests should be written and can be made to the following address above or to the email below. Please include the following information: child's name, your name, phone number, and the correct address for the check to be mailed. A request can also be made to transfer the funds to a sibling or another account. Any money under \$25.00 left in your child's account after the 10 days of the withdrawal or graduation will be transferred to an "extra money" account and be deemed as a donation in our computer system to be used for other accounts in need.

**If paying with cash,** <u>ALL</u> **change will be applied to the student's meal account.** This helps to decrease the spread of germs and gives students more time to eat meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. You may pay in cash, check or at <a href="https://linqconnect.com/">https://linqconnect.com/</a>

Payments may be made free of charge by cash or check.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hamby at <a href="mailto:khamby@ccschools.k12tn.net">khamby@ccschools.k12tn.net</a> or 931-484-6722.

Respectfully,

**Kathy Hamby** 

**Kathy Hamby, SNS District Supervisor** 

Central Services - School Nutrition Program

• Cumberland County Board of Education 368 Fourth Street Crossville, TN. 38555 Phone: 931-484-6135 Fax: 931-484-6491

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the state or local agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, <u>AD-3027</u>, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1. **Mail**: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Revised April 17, 2025



### MYPLATE GUIDE TO

# SCHOOL BREAKFAST

### for Families



#### **FRUITS**

A full cup of fruit is available every day, providing nutrients that are important for kids' health, such as potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin C, and folate (folic acid).





Kids and teens need the calcium, protein, and vitamin D found in milk for strong bones, teeth, and muscles.



#### **VEGETABLES**

Every breakfast does not include vegetables, but schools may offer them in place of fruits.





Starting every day the whole grains way gives kids and teens B vitamins, minerals, and fiber to feel fuller longer so they stay alert to concentrate at school.



#### **PROTEIN FOODS**

Some breakfast menus may offer items such as eggs, nuts, or meats to pair with whole-grain options.







# HOW DOES SCHOOL BREAKFAST HELP FAMILIES?



#### **Fuels learning**

Kids and teens can concentrate on their schoolwork better when they're not hungry. Studies show that kids do better in school when they eat breakfast.



#### **Provides better nutrition**

Studies show that people who eat breakfast have higher intakes of dietary fiber, B vitamins, calcium, iron, and other nutrients.



#### Saves time

School breakfast can simplify mornings for families by offering kids and teens healthy options that fit into their schedule.

#### HOW CAN FAMILIES HELP THEIR CHILD EAT A HEALTHY BREAKFAST?

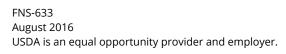
- Read the menu with your child to make sure your student knows about all the foods that are included in their school breakfast.
- Find out how your parent organization can work with school nutrition professionals to promote breakfast options at your school, such as Breakfast in the Classroom.



#### Visit Choosemyplate.gov/Families for additional tips and activities for families.

The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides cash assistance to States to operate nonprofit breakfast programs in schools and residential child care institutions. The USDA Food and Nutrition Service administers the SBP at the Federal level. State agencies administer the SBP at the State level, and local school food authorities operate the Program in schools.

Learn more at: www.fns.usda.gov/sbp/school-breakfast-program-sbp.









### MYPLATE GUIDE TO

# SCHOOL LUNCH

for Families

#### VEGETABLES

Vegetables

A variety of vegetables helps kids get the nutrients and fiber they need for good health.



Low-fat (1%)
or Fat-free milk.
Children and teens
need the calcium,
protein, and vitamin
D found in milk for
strong bones, teeth
and muscles.



#### **GRAINS**

Whole grains give kids B vitamins, minerals, and fiber to help them feel fuller longer so they stay alert to concentrate at school.



#### **PROTEIN FOODS**

Meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, peas, eggs, nuts, and seeds provide many nutrients including protein and iron. Portion sizes are based upon the nutrition needs of children in various grade groups. School meals also allow cheese, tofu, and yogurt to count as the meat/meat alternate in the school lunch.

#### FRUITS

Every school lunch includes fruits as well as vegetables. Only ½ of the fruits offered may be 100% juice, since whole and cut-up fruits have more fiber.









# HOW DOES SCHOOL LUNCH HELP FAMILIES?



# Provides a balanced meal

It meets one-third of the nutrition needs of most children for the day.



## Helps kids learn where foods come from

Farm to school programs are in 42 percent of schools which increase kids access to locally produced foods and learning activities such as farmers' visits and school gardening.



#### Saves time

If you spend 10 minutes a day packing lunch, that adds up to 30 hours (1,800 minutes) each school year.



# Supports learning at school

Research shows that kids with healthier eating patterns have better academic performance.



"We grow fruits and vegetables in our school greenhouse, which are harvested and given to the cafeteria to serve on the salad bar. It's great because the landscaping class gets involved, the leadership classes get involved, and even all the marketing plan classes get involved."



Nebraska student

#### HOW CAN FAMILIES HELP THEIR CHILDREN ENJOY SCHOOL LUNCH?

- Try new foods at home. Kids need many opportunities to taste a new food to "get used to it."
- Talk with your child about what's on the menu. Make sure he or she knows about all the foods that are included in his or her school.
- Eat lunch at school with your child. Learn more about what's offered and meet school nutrition staff.
- Encourage your child or teen to join in taste-testing events or surveys about school lunch, when available.

#### Visit Choosemyplate.gov/Families for additional tips and activities for families.

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.

Learn more at: www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/national-school-lunch-program-nslp.

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