

FOOD AND NUTRITION DEPARTMENT COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Application for Educational Benefits: If you apply and are approved your students will receive school meals at no charge.

Everyone should fill out an application every year because the school district receives some of its funding based on the number of applications that are approved.

The Food & Nutrition Department mails an Application for Educational Benefits to all families in August.

Parents can also apply for Educational Benefits online through their Parent Portal or the District Webpage after July 1st of the current school year.

Families can request an application or pick up an application at any of the schools or administration office at any time during the school year.

Applications can be mailed to:

ISD #318 Food & Nutrition
800 Conifer Drive
Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

After your application is processed by the Food & Nutrition office staff a notification letter will be mailed to you informing you of approval or denial of meal benefits. Your benefits for free or reduced meals will begin at that point. You may reapply any time during the school year if you have changes in your household size or income.

Any questions on the Application for Educational Benefits can be directed to Shauna Ahonen, Food & Nutrition Secretary, at 218-327-5771.



Making Payments on your School Meals Account:

The Food & Nutrition Department mails out School Meals statements every month to families. You can make online payments through your parent portal or district's webpage, mail payments to ISD #318 Food & Nutrition 800 Conifer Drive, Grand Rapids MN 55744 or send payments with your student to their school cafeteria. Questions regarding making payments can be directed to Shauna Ahonen, Food & Nutrition Secretary, at 218-327-5771.



Programs Available through Food & Nutrition:

The Food & Nutrition Department offers healthy breakfast and lunch meals each day to students and adults at Grand Rapids Senior High, Robert J. Elkington Middle School, Cohasset Elementary, East Elementary, West Elementary and Bigfork Elementary and High School. (These are Minnesota State and Federal funded programs.)



Free Breakfast to Kindergarten students:

All Kindergarten students are offered breakfast at no charge regardless of their ability to pay. (This is a Minnesota State program.)

Voluntary Prekindergarten/School Readiness Plus Breakfast (VPK) Program Meals:

The Food & Nutrition program provides breakfast for prekindergarten/school readiness students at no charge to students. (This is a Minnesota State program.)



MN Kindergarten Milk Program:

The Food & Nutrition program offers a Kindergarten milk program to all kindergarteners in the school district. Kindergarten students can select milk during an AM or PM snack break at no charge regardless of their ability to pay. This program does not provide milk at no charge during breakfast or lunch periods. (This is a Minnesota State program)



At-Risk After School Program Meals:

The Food & Nutrition program provides meals for the Boys and Girls Club after school at no charge to students regardless of their ability to pay. (This is a Federal program.)



Summer Food Services programs:

Summer Food service programs are available during the months of June, July and August and are open to all children under 18 years of age. Information about Summer Food Service programs are advertised on the school district web site and in the local newspapers during the spring. (This is a Federal program.)



From the Food and Nutrition Department