

Attaches To: (see bottom of page 1, Object(s): Job Description, Etc. Applied To)

Policy Title:	School Meal Charge
Policy Reference:	
Policy Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Company <input type="checkbox"/> Position <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Effective Date:	4/9/2025
Print Date:	8/9/2025

Description:

Morning Star Preparatory Academy participates in the National School Lunch Program and provides catered breakfasts and lunches for students and staff. Students may also bring their own healthy breakfast and lunch from home daily. All food shall be eaten in the lunchroom as specified by the administration. Students are expected to follow lunchroom procedures and behave respectfully while eating lunch. Each class, with the supervision of their teacher, will leave their lunch area clean. In accordance with the Health Department rules, students may not trade lunches or individual items for the safety of students with allergies.

Families who have children with special dietary needs, such as food intolerance or food allergies, should notify the school of such conditions. The school will work with the family to determine how to accommodate the child's needs. Morning Star Preparatory Academy meets the minimum requirements and standards for all foods and drinks sold at the school during the day.

Non-Pricing Meal Charge Policy

This policy outlines the procedures for providing nutritious meals to all students, ensuring equal access to breakfast, lunch, and other meal services at no charge, in compliance with the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) guidelines.

Meal Service:

1. No Charges for Meals:

All students will receive breakfast and lunch at no cost, regardless of their eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meals.

2. Eligibility and Meal Applications:

Although meals are provided at no cost, families are encouraged to submit the free and reduced meal application to help the school gather necessary information for federal and state funding purposes.

3. Equal Access:

All students will receive the same meal options as part of the school's commitment to equity and fairness.

There will be no differentiation in meals based on eligibility, financial status, or other factors.

4. Recordkeeping and Reporting:

The school will maintain records of paid, free, and reduced-status student participation in the meal program, as required by NSLP regulations, for reporting and auditing purposes.

These records will be used solely for administrative purposes and will not affect a student's meal access.

5. Communication with Families:

The school will notify parents/guardians of important program information, including reminders to submit updated meal applications annually.

Families will also be informed of any changes to the meal program or policies as needed.

6. Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

While there is no federal and meal charge, parents/guardians are encouraged to complete and submit meal applications annually to help the school maintain program compliance and gather necessary information for federal and state reporting.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the school's food service department if they have any questions about the meal program or need assistance completing the application.

Non-Discrimination: In accordance with the USDA's non-discrimination policy, the school will not discriminate against any student based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. All students, regardless of their background or financial situation, will have equal access to nutritious meals.

Review and Updates: This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure compliance with the NSLP and any applicable local, state, or federal regulations. Any changes or updates will be communicated to all parents/guardians in a timely manner.

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the school and covers breakfast, lunch and any additional meal services

Scope: provided during the school day.