



## REGION 15 FOOD SERVICES

Meghan Sullivan, RD, CD-N  
Director of Food and Nutrition Services

[Meghan.Sullivan@region15.org](mailto:Meghan.Sullivan@region15.org)

(203)758-8259 x138

[www.Region15.org/FoodServices](http://www.Region15.org/FoodServices)

### Important Update Regarding Food Services in Region 15 Schools

Friday, September 11, 2020

Dear Region 15 Family,

On August 31, 2020, the USDA released nationwide waivers to extend flexibilities for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) through December 31, 2020. (**Note:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reserves the right to withdraw this approval subject to the availability of funding.)

#### *What does this mean for families in Region 15?*

- Region 15 will be offering universal free lunch through the Seamless Summer Option for all students in grades Pre- Kindergarten through 12. Free lunch in Region 15 will be starting this Monday, September, 14th until December 23, 2020 or until otherwise noted.
- **Please note this applies to *all* Region 15 families regardless of current paid, free or reduced lunch status.**
- We will continue to serve our scheduled lunch menu which is subject to change based on availability of items during the current pandemic. Menus can easily be accessed online at [Region 15 Lunch Menus](http://www.Region15.org/FoodServices) ([www.Region15.org/FoodServices](http://www.Region15.org/FoodServices)).
- Free Lunch will not be available when schools are not in session (for example, scheduled days off or snow days). Middle and high school students will not have meals available to them on planned early dismissal days, as lunch is not scheduled to be provided.

#### *What type of lunch is included?*

- In order for a student to have a Free lunch, the student must take a complete meal or take what is described as a “Full Lunch.” A “Full Lunch” includes 3 of the 5 meal components including a serving of a fruit or vegetable. A complete meal’s components include: Milk

(skim, 1% white, nonfat flavored), Fruit, Vegetable, Grains (whole grains), and Protein (including yogurt, string cheese, and hummus).

- If a student does not take a “Full Lunch” they will be charged full price for the lunch.
- If a student would like a second lunch, they will need to purchase the second lunch using funds on their lunch account.

***What about ala carte items?***

- Ala carte items, including water, snacks, and milk, are still available but not included in the universal free lunch until December 23, 2020 or until otherwise noted.
- If a student wishes to purchase ala carte items, checks or MySchoolBucks can still be used.

***Remote Distance Learners:***

- **“Curbside Meals” will be available to any child under 18.**
- Per the universal free lunch (Seamless Summer Option) guidelines, there will be no charge for “Curbside Meals.”
- **Ala carte items and second lunches are not available through “Curbside Meals.”**
- As a reminder, pre-registration for curbside meals is **required** by Monday of each week (including high school remote learners). Meals may be picked up once a week on Wednesdays at Long Meadow Elementary School between 11:45-12:45. Parents / guardians can pick up meals for their students. Children do not need to be present at the time of pick up.

[Region 15 Remote Learner Lunch Registration Form](#)

***My School Bucks:***

- Our [MySchool Bucks](#) lunch payment system will continue to operate for students to purchase ala carte items and/or additional lunches.

***Other Information:***

- There are no refunds available at this time for lunches purchased since the start of the 2020-21 school year.
- Please note when the universal free lunch (Seamless Summer Option) ends, as determined by the USDA, any student who currently receives free / reduced lunch will return to free / reduced lunch status.
- School Lunch ID Cards or ID labels with a barcode will continue to be scanned at the cashier checkout. If your student has lost their Lunch ID Card, they can give their name first and last name to the cashier. A new Lunch ID Card can be issued by the Food Service Department at any time.

### ***Free/Reduced Lunch***

- If your child **currently** receives Free/Reduced lunch, their benefits will continue after December 23, 2020 or when the universal free lunch ends (Seamless Summer Option).
- We understand that family situations may change and the Free/Reduced lunch application can be completed anytime throughout the school year.
- [Family Application 2020-21](#)  
[FAQ Free & Reduced 2020-2021](#)

If at any time you have a question regarding Food Services, please send me an email. Thank you for supporting Region 15 Food Services!

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Director of Food and Nutrition Services  
[Meghan.Sullivan@region15.org](mailto:Meghan.Sullivan@region15.org)  
(203)758-8259 ext 138

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