Quick Answers

How do I add money/make a payment to my child’s account?
You can continue to send money to school with your student or you can add money through SchoolCafé. Follow the steps in Make a Payment in this guide.

I made an online payment. When can my student use the payment?
Your student’s cafeteria account at the school is credited within 24 hours but may become available as quickly as 2 hours.

Is there a fee or service charge for making online payments?
A convenience fee may be charged for each online payment transaction. For example, if you make a $20.00 payment and the convenience fee is $1.00, the total debited from your credit card is $21.00. The available funds for your child will be $20.00. Convenience fee amounts vary by school district.

Can I receive notification when my student’s account balance is low?
Yes! Follow the steps in Set Up a Low Balance Alert in this guide.

Why was my account locked when making a payment?
After three failed payment attempts, payment function is locked. Contact SchoolCafé to remove the lock.

What if I have several students in different schools?
Include as many students as you need in your account. The students can attend any school within the same district. Payments for each student are made separately.

Can I transfer money from one child to another?
Contact the Child Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a transfer.

What happens to the money in my account at the end of the school year?
Your account balance moves with your student(s) from grade to grade and school to school within the district. Contact the Child Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a refund.

How do I receive a refund if my child changes school districts?
Contact the Child Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a refund.

Register

a Click Register
b Verify “I’m registering as a Parent” is selected and click Next Step
c Enter your school district name and then click Next Step
d Enter your name and contact information, and then click Next Step
e Set up your username and password
f Select a Security Question and enter a Security Answer, and click Next Step
g Click I’m not a robot and follow the reCAPTCHA prompts
h Check I accept the Terms & Conditions and click Create My Account

Add Your Student(s)

a Click Students ➔ Student Accounts
b Click Add a Student
c Enter your Student’s ID [and Lunch PIN, if asked] and select your student’s School
d Click Search & Verify Student
e Click Add this Student

Set Automatic Payment

1 Click Students ➔ Student Accounts
2 Click Automatic Payment () in a student listing
3 Enter Payment Amount
4 Enter amount in Balance Threshold to trigger payment
5 Select a Payment Source
6 Set Auto Pay Expiration Date for stop payment date
7 Click Add Automatic Payment

Set Low Balance Alerts

1 Click Students ➔ Student Accounts
2 Click Low Balance Alert (●) in a student listing
3 Enter Threshold amount
4 Enter number of days to elapse between alerts
5 Click Set

Add Payment Source

a Click My Account ➔ Payment Sources
b Click Add a Card
c Enter your Card Number and Card Expiration date
d Enter a name to associate with this card, if wanted
e Click Add Card

Make a Payment

a Click Students ➔ Student Accounts
b Click Make a Payment
c Enter Payment dollar amount
d Click Next Step
e Select a Payment Method, or enter card information for a one-time payment
f Click Submit Payment

Review your student’s buying history

View school menus and meal item nutrition information

Make payments to their student(s) cafeteria meal account

Include as many students as you need in your account. The students can attend any school within the same district. Payments for each student are made separately.

Contact the Child Nutrition Services office at the school district for assistance with a transfer.

After three failed payment attempts, payment function is locked. Contact SchoolCafé to remove the lock.

Click Add this Student

You will be asked to verify your security answer and contact information when you request help with your username or password, or other information on your Profile page.
Use this guide to navigate the School Menus page, view menus and menu items, and create a school tray with a complete meal.

To make a tray:

a. Click Menus & Nutrition → School Menus
b. Click

To make a tray (dot turns blue like this –) following the listed rules

When you see this, you have created a nutritionally balanced meal that meets current USDA guidelines.

c. Click Select next to menu items to add to My Tray (dot turns blue like this –)

Tip To see all the trays that you have created, click Menus & Nutrition → My Trays

d. Click

Shows allergens present in the selected meal

Click to see Fat, Cholesterol, Sodium, and other nutrient values for the selected meal

Provides quick summary of meal contributions, calories, and carbohydrates

Lists all selected menu items along with picture, meal contributions, calories, and carbohydrates for each

Click date to show menu

Click to show menus for whole week

Select to hide menu items with allergen

Click to change to previous or next week

Meal Contribution

Shown below menu item name

F Fruit
G Grain
M Milk
P Protein
V Vegetable

Click menu item name to show ingredients and nutritional information

Click menu item name on the menu

Click a ★ in the Interact group

Click a different ★ or ❤ for a menu item

Show menu item ratings & favorites

* Your favorites and rated items are shown by default

Change a menu item rating or favorite

“Favorite” a menu item

a. Click the menu item name on the menu
b. Click ★ in the Interact group

“Unfavorite” a menu item

a. Click the menu item name on the menu
b. Click ❤ in the Interact group

Rate a menu item

a. Click the menu item name on the menu
b. Click ★ in the Interact group