

The goal of the Shelby County Schools Child Nutrition Program is to provide students access to nutritious meals each school day. It is also the intent of the Child Nutrition Program to comply with all federal program regulations. Records related to bad debt and student accounts will be maintained per USDA record retention requirements.

Unpaid meal charges are considered delinquent debt. It is unlawful for the Child Nutrition Program to absorb unpaid, charged meals. Parents/guardians are responsible for providing funds for student meals. If a parent/guardian refuses to provide funds for student meals or refuses to complete a meal benefit application for free/reduced priced meals after a reasonable amount of time and notification, an alternative meal may be provided at the principal's discretion. Adult meals, a la carte, and extra items are prohibited from being charged. By the end of each school year, all charges must be paid either by the parent/guardian, student, or locally acquired nonpublic funds made available from the school office.

If parents/guardians need financial assistance paying for school meals, they are encouraged to apply for free and reduced price meals. Meal benefit applications are available at the school, the Central Office, and/or online at <http://www.myschoolapps.com>. An application for free and reduced price meals only takes a few minutes to complete and can be completed at any time during the school year. A student's meal status is confidential and is only known by the cafeteria software.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to take advantage of the [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) online pre-payment system thus eliminating situations that could develop during meal time because of failure to bring money to school. Through this secure website/mobile app parents/guardians can view meal account balances, purchases, make payments, and receive low balance notification. There is no cost to register, check balances, and/or view the student's purchases. A small service fee will be charged by <http://www.myschoolbucks.com> if money is deposited into the student's account.