



# NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY

## FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM



Dear W.T. Sampson Parents and Guardians,

As the new school year begins, it's time to set up your child's lunch account and apply for free or reduced-price meals. Please note the following important details:

### 1. Application for Free/Reduced Meals for the 2025 – 2026 school year:

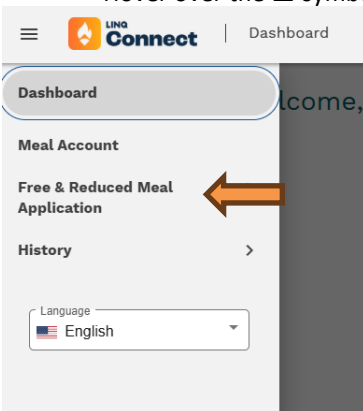
- **Start Date:** The application window opens on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and runs all school year.
  - The program cannot be applied retroactively, please apply at the earliest opportunity.
- **Reapplication:** Must be done annually as eligibility is valid for only one year, if you do not reapply your student(s) will revert to a 'paid' status.
- **Required Information:**
  - Student ID number (provided via email post-enrollment).
  - Service Member's LES and spouse pay voucher (if applicable).
  - Student's name exactly as listed on enrollment forms.
  - School district information according to your location.
  - **Since GTMO is a stand-alone location:** Use the military installation name

### Important Notes:

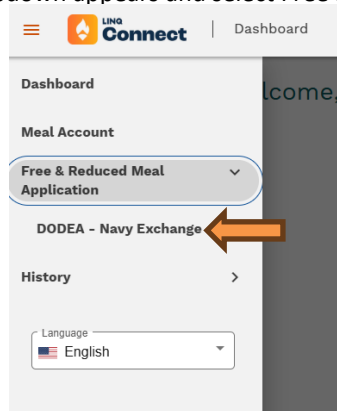
- Please use an email that you check regularly, LINQ is an all-online system, so all notifications are via email.
- Household Income: Report gross pay (include spouse's income). Exclude housing allowances, COLA, imminent danger pay, or hostile fire pay.
  - There is an automatic verification process, typically from 15 Oct-2 Dec, during this time you may be asked to provide additional information or verify sponsor and spouse incomes. Please check your emails as failure to respond will result in automatic disenrollment from the program and reversion to a 'paid' status.

### How to Apply:

- Visit [LINQ Connect](https://lingconnect.com) (<https://lingconnect.com>) to apply for free and reduced meals.
- Hover over the ≡ symbol until the dropdown appears and select Free and Reduced Meal Application:



Select Free and Reduced Meal Application:



Then select DODEA – NEX

Follow the prompts to submit a new application

- We fall under DoDEA -Navy Exchange (Virginia), follow the prompts and fill in all required information.
  - Please remember that all communication for the program is via email, if I as the School Liaison need to reach out it will be via email so, please use an email you check often.
- If you have multiple children, you can fill out one application, just ensure you include all children in that submission.
- Once submitted, you will receive an email stating whether you have been approved or not via the system, please pay attention to your email to check for this message.
  - Any concerns or questions can be directed to either the School Liaison or the CYP director. Both can be reached at [GTMOsl@us.navy.mil](mailto:GTMOsl@us.navy.mil)

## 2. Managing Lunch Payments:

- Online Payments: Use the Family Portal at [LING Connect \(https://lingconnect.com\)](https://lingconnect.com).
  - Please note that there is a \$2.85 service charge **per student per** transaction.
  - You can set up recurring payments, get low balance alerts, view purchases, and split payments.
  - Students will not be declined meals if their balance is below \$0.00. Notification of low and negative balances will be sent via email from the LINQ system once you are registered.
    - Please be aware that students with an outstanding balance cannot be issued transcripts; while easy to remedy this often catches families off guard on that last crazy PCS week.
    - Please be aware that all debts are managed by NEXCOM, as a government organization overdue balances can be referred to the US Treasury for collections if an outstanding balance is not paid in full.

## 3. SY 2025 – 2026 Meal Pricing

SY 2025-2026 Breakfast Prices	
Breakfast (all grades)	\$2.00
Reduced Breakfast (all grades)	\$0.30
SY 2025-2026 Breakfast A la Carte Prices	
Adult Breakfast	\$4.25
Add'l Entrée	\$1.50
Extra Fruit/Veggie	\$1.00
Extra Milk	\$1.00

SY 2025-2026 Lunch Prices	
UPK (family style in classroom)	\$3.50
Grades K-5	\$3.50
Grades 6-12	\$3.75
Reduced Lunch (all grades)	\$0.40
SY 2025-2026 Lunch A la Carte Prices	
Adult Lunch	\$7.50
Add'l Entree	\$3.25
Extra Grain/Fruit/Veggie	\$1.00
Extra Milk	\$1.00

## 4. What constitutes a creditable meal?

- To qualify for a reimbursable (free or reduced) meal, students must select the following
  - For breakfast students must select at least three out of the four meal components offered daily listed below:
    - One entrée (two entrée choices are offered each meal)
    - Fruits – For a breakfast to count one of the choices **MUST** be a fruit
    - Milk
  - For lunch students must select at least three out of the five meal components offered daily listed below:
    - One entrée (two entrée choices are offered each meal)
    - Fruits
    - Vegetables
    - Milk
- If a student doesn't select the appropriate components for either meal, the meal does not qualify as reimbursable and will be charged as à la carte.
  - For example; a lunch with no entrée would be rung up as +1 fruit, +1 veg + 1 milk for a total of \$3.00 instead of being free or reduced.
- Additionally, if a student selects extra items beyond the standard meal, the additional items are charged à la carte.
- If either scenario happens the LINQ system will send a notice if negative balance. If you receive this notice, please check the system to see what your child purchased.

## 4. What does all this mean?

- For any questions, concerns, more details, or if you have any issues with the SMP program, please contact the School Liaison, Mr. Saraceni, at [GTMOsl@us.navy.mil](mailto:GTMOsl@us.navy.mil) or 757-458-4220.