

Meal Charge Guidelines

Desert View Academy (DVA) promotes healthy schools by supporting wellness, good nutrition, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning environment. Improved health optimizes student performance potential and ensures that no child is left behind.

Unpaid meal charges place a large financial burden on our school. The purpose of these guidelines is to insure compliance with federal requirements for the USDA Child Nutrition Program, and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances.

The intent of this notice is to inform families of procedures to address unpaid meal charges at Desert View Academy.

Guidelines

- Free Meal Benefit Eligible students will be provided a free lunch each day that lunch is served.
- Reduced Meal Benefit Eligible students will be provided lunch at the cost of .40 each day that lunch is served.
- Full Pay Students Students will be provided lunch at the cost of \$3.00 each day that lunch is served.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for meal payment to the food service program.
- A maximum of **\$24.00 charge is permitted** on student meal accounts.
- Discreet notices of low or deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians twice a month, on Thursdays.
- Students/Parents/Guardians may pay for meals in advance via e-funds, or with a check payable to Desert View Academy (DVA). Any remaining funds for an individual student may/will be carried over to the next school year.
- A written or e-mailed request must be submitted for a refund of any money remaining in a student account. Students who are moving on, at the end of a school year, will be given the option to transfer remaining funds to a sibling's account, with a written request.
- Balances owed will follow the guidelines and procedures set by the school.

If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, administration will investigate the situation more closely and take further action as needed. If a financial hardship exists, parents and families are encouraged to apply for free or reduced priced lunches for their child, if applicable.

If you have any questions please contact Sandra Arreguin at: 928-314-1102. <u>sarreguin@desertviewschools.com</u>, to discuss payment options.



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