

## **Knox County Career Center Meal Charge Policy**

The goal of the Knox County Career Center is to provide student access to nutritious no- or low-cost meals each school day. However, unpaid charges place a large financial burden on our school.

The purpose of this policy 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 policy is to establish procedures to address unpaid meal charges throughout the Knox County Career Center. The provisions of this policy pertain to regular priced school breakfast, lunch and snack (if applicable) meals only.

The Knox County Career Center provides this policy as a courtesy to those students in the event that they forget or lose their lunch money. **Charging of items outside of the reimbursable meals (a la carte items, adult meals, etc.) is expressly prohibited.**

- **Free Meal Benefit** - Free eligible students will be allowed to receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. **Ala carte purchases must be paid /prepaid.**

- **Reduced Meal Benefit** - Reduced eligible students will be allowed to receive a breakfast for \$.30 and lunch for \$.40 each day. A student will be allowed to charge a maximum of 3 meals to their account after the balance reaches zero. The charge meals offered to students will be reimbursable meals that are available to all students.

If a student max's out their account, we will not supply them with a meal until they pay their charge, but if they bring in the price of lunch we will serve them a meal.

**Ala carte purchases must be paid /prepaid. No a la carte items will be sold if you have an outstanding debt.**

- **Full Pay Students** - Students will pay for meals at the school's published paid meal rate each day. If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, the administration will investigate the situation more closely and take further action as needed. If financial hardship exists, parents and families are encouraged to apply for free or reduced price lunches for their child if applicable. A student will be allowed to charge a maximum of 3 meals to their account after the balance reaches zero. The charge meals offered to students will be reimbursable meals that are available to all students.

If a student max's out their account, we will not supply them with a meal until they pay their charge, but if they bring in the price of lunch we will serve them a meal.

**No ala carte items will be sold to students if they have an outstanding debt.**