

Frequently Asked Questions - Mandatory Meal Plan

Beginning with the fall 2023 semester, Jefferson College will be contracting with Great Western Dining (GWD) to offer a “QT” style kitchen and a cafeteria homestyle kitchen.

1. What if I have dietary restrictions?

The onsite GWD Director at the College will work with various student groups to build and maintain a variety of healthy dietary options meeting government guidelines and any special dietary needs. In addition, GWD will strive to accommodate the dietary preferences of all students. If a student on a meal plan is unable, for medical reasons, to consume the regular meal served in the dining room, GWD will supply, at no cost to the College or the student, a meal meeting the physician's requirements.

2. What if I will miss certain meals because of class, athletics, clinicals, etc.?

Sandwiches, fresh fruit, beverages, chips, and desserts will be offered to residential students who are on a meal plan on any College-sponsored trip, in lieu of a regular scheduled meal. Boxed meals will also be available, upon advance request, for students on the meal plan leaving campus on vacation breaks, or at times when they have class or activity-related conflicts with meal schedules. Any meal plan student from a GWD account is eligible for meals at [other GWD dining accounts](#).

3. Why is it mandatory for Viking Woods residents only?

College administration understands that this is an added cost for our students. The College has been without hot food service for over two years since the former vendor stopped operating the cafeteria. The College conducted a survey with students and employees and determined that the campus community wanted hot meal service in addition to the micro markets that currently serve both the Hillsboro and Arnold campus locations. The vendors required mandatory meal plans as part of their bids. GWD was the lowest priced vendor, and their meal plans were approximately 50% lower than the next lowest bidder. The College's goal has always been to meet the needs of our students at the lowest possible cost.

4. What is the schedule and cost?

- Meal Plan: 14 meals per week
- Monday through Friday: Breakfast and lunch
- Monday through Thursday: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- \$1,283 per semester (fall and spring)
 - Summer - \$12.50 per day (includes breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday); requires a minimum of 25 participants

5. Will the cafeteria be closed if there is inclement weather?

Even if the College is closed due to inclement weather, GWD, in most instances, will do a late start and begin with brunch. GWD is committed to being the food source for the students. If the weather is extreme, GWD will pack food for the students prior to closure. In addition, the micro markets (located in the building next to Viking Woods) will be available.

6. What if I need assistance with financial resources?

If students have financial need, they should complete the FAFSA so that any financial aid that is available can be awarded. Students can also apply for scholarships at this link: <https://www.jeffco.edu/future-students/financial-aid/scholarships>. If students need assistance, they can stop by the Financial Aid Office in the Student Center, or they can contact Financial Aid by phone at (636)-481-3212 or by email at finaid@jeffco.edu.

7. What kind of special services will Great Western Dining provide?

- Exam snack during finals week
- Late night (midnight) breakfast the night before final exams
- Team travel meals
- Dorm cookout
- Birthday Bash- Each month, GWD will supply a large birthday cake for all residential students celebrating birthdays that month
- Reciprocal service- any student visiting another campus on a college-sponsored trip whose dining services are managed by GWD will be [offered meal services at that location](#) at no cost to the college, such as State Fair, Crowder, and Moberly.

8. Can non-residential students and employees purchase meal plans?

Only residential students can purchase meal plans. However, non-residential students and employees can purchase 10-meal punch cards or individual meals from GWD. The costs are as follows:

- 10-meal punch card
 - Students - \$69
 - Staff - \$68
- Individual meals
 - Breakfast (students and employees) - \$6.50
 - Lunch (students) - \$7.25
 - Lunch (employees) - \$6.75
 - Dinner (students and employees) - \$8.00