

FOOD SERVICE CHARGES AT APPROPRIATED FUND DINING FACILITIES
AND THE MILITARY ACADEMIES
EFFECTIVE [JANUARY 1, 2026](#)

Volume 12, *Special Accounts, Funds and Programs*, of DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoD 7000.14-R) stipulates that the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) shall prescribe the rates for food service charges annually.

1. Chapter 19 (*Food Service Program*) of Volume 12, addresses rates to be charged for meals at Department of Defense (DoD) dining facilities. The following food service rates are effective [January 1, 2026](#)

2.

A. Traditional Meal System

<u>Meal</u>	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>Standard Rate</u>
Breakfast	\$3.35	\$4.50
Lunch	\$5.55	\$7.25
Dinner	\$4.75	\$6.25
Total	\$13.65	\$18.00
Brunch	\$6.10	\$8.10
Supper	\$7.35	\$9.85
Holiday	\$8.75	\$11.85
Night Snack	\$3.40	\$4.50

The **discount rate** shall be charged to:

- (a) spouses and other dependents of enlisted personnel in pay grades E-1 through E-4.
- (b) members of organized nonprofit youth groups sponsored at either the national or local level and permitted to eat in the general dining facility by the Commanding Officer of the installation. Such groups include: Civil Air Patrol, Junior ROTC and Scouting units.
- (c) officers, enlisted members, and federal civilian employees who are not receiving the meal portion of per diem and who are either:
 - (1) Performing duty on a U.S. Government vessel,
 - (2) On field duty,
 - (3) In a group travel status,
 - (4) Included in essential unit messing (EUM) as defined in the JTR, Chapter 2, Par. 020315, or
 - (5) Assigned to Essential Station Messing (ESM) as an enlisted member as defined in DoDD 1418.05.
- (d) officers, enlisted members, and federal employees who are not receiving the meal portion of per diem, and who are on a U.S. Government aircraft on official duty either as a passenger or as a crew member engaged in flight operations.

- (e) officers, enlisted members, and federal employees on Joint Task Force operations other than training at temporary U.S. installations, or using temporary dining facilities.

The **standard rate** shall be charged to all officers and enlisted members receiving an allowance for subsistence (other than those addressed under discount rate (a) through (e) above); any officer, enlisted member or federal civilian employee receiving the subsistence portion of per diem; and all other personnel (including Reserve Component officers on Inactive Duty Training) authorized to eat in DoD dining facilities.

- B. A la Carte Meal Pricing System. When using an “a la carte” menu, the price of each item on the menu shall be established at 133 percent of the food cost (i.e., the cost of unprepared food multiplied by a factor of 1.33).
- 3. Chapter 20 (*Military Academy Dining Hall Operations*) of Volume 12 stipulates that the daily amount of subsistence shall be prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for each Military Department that operates a Service Academy dining hall in support of cadets or midshipmen. The following rates are effective **January 1, 2026**.
 - A. Daily Cadet/Midshipmen Subsistence Allowance. The subsistence allowance is applicable when in a leave or temporary duty status and is equal to the daily rate for an enlisted member receiving Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS). **The daily rate is \$15.90. Individual meal rates are as follows: Breakfast (\$4.00), Lunch (\$6.35), Dinner (\$5.55).**
 - B. Academy Dining Hall Food Service. The rates below are to provide food service support to cadets or midshipmen, and the amount so prescribed will be allocated by the Military Departments from the current Military Personnel Appropriation to a non-appropriated fund at each Academy based on the number of cadets and midshipmen present for training.

Academy Dining Facility Food Service			
	<u>United States Military Academy</u> ¹	<u>United States Naval Academy</u> ²	<u>United States Air Force Academy</u> ³
Daily Rate	\$22.10	\$21.10	\$22.15
Breakfast	\$5.55	\$5.30	\$5.60
Lunch	\$8.90	\$8.50	\$9.05
Dinner	\$7.65	\$7.30	\$7.80

¹ The Army rate reflects the results of their daily food cost analysis that was first implemented on October 1, 2018.

² The Navy rate reflects the results of their daily food cost analysis that was first implemented on July 1, 2020.

³ The Air Force rate reflects the results of their daily food cost analysis that was first implemented on September 1, 2023.