



Policy # 54003

MEAL EXEMPTION POLICY

Effective Date: February 24, 2012
Responsible Office: Business Services
Division(s): Finance & Operations

Revised Date: May 6, 2022

I. PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE

Grambling State University believes living and interacting with peers outside of the classroom enhances the education of the whole person. On-campus dining offers a great opportunity to serve this purpose. In addition, on-campus dining promotes healthy and informed dietary habits. Therefore, the purpose of this policy is to encourage Grambling State University students who are living in on-campus residence halls to participate in the on-campus dining program.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. The University requires students that live in residence halls to purchase a meal plan.

B. The University recognizes that some limited circumstances may prevent a student from participating in the on-campus dining program.

1. Medically diagnosed condition with specific prescribed dietary restrictions which the meal plan options are unable to reasonably accommodate. A letter on letterhead paper from a medical doctor (letters from chiropractors are not accepted) is required stating the student's medical diagnosis. In the event of food intolerance/allergies, the doctor must state specifically which food(s) the student cannot consume and what the allergy reaction(s) are.
2. Religious Dietary Requirements: Grambling State University recognizes that certain religions and faiths have special dietary restrictions. Individuals requesting religious exemptions are required to provide documentation of their religious affiliations and detailed information of how their faith dietary requirements cannot be accommodated by Sodexo Magic Dining Services. A letter from the Vice President for Student Affairs (or his/her designee) or a Clergyman will be required to apply for exemptions relating to religious reasons.
3. Exemptions for other reasons, such as vegetarian diet, work/class schedules, access to a kitchen or personal preferences will not be considered for an exemption.
4. All supporting documentation will be verified by the Office of the Vice-President for Finance.

5. If a student's meal exemption request is approved, refunds will be prorated from the time the application is approved until the end of the approved term.
- C. All meal exemption requests must be made before the 14th class day for the fall and spring terms and 7th class day for summer terms. No meal exemption request will be reviewed after that date.
 - D. All meal exemption requests must be initiated in the Office of Business Services with the Business Services Manager and must be approved by the Vice President for Finance (or his/her designee) and the Dining Services Director.
 1. The Dining Services Director's signature is an acknowledgment of the meal exemption for the meal plan provider (Sodexo Magic). It does not require the student to reinitiate the application process.
 2. Any disputes from the Director of Dining Services about approval of a meal exemption should be forwarded to the Office of Business Services and should not be discussed with the requestor (student).
 - E. All requests will be reviewed within 3-5 business days and the student will be notified of any missing documentation.
 - F. Typically, meal plan exemptions are granted for an academic year or the portion of an academic year that remains when the exemption is granted. Meal plan exemptions do not automatically "rollover" to the next academic year.
 - G. Students who reside in Grambling State University provided housing have the options of four residential meal plans.
 1. Tiger 24/7 Day Silver Plan - Unlimited access to McCall Dining Center/Student Engagement Commons during all operating hours, plus two guest passes and \$100 in Tiger Bucks per semester.
 2. Tiger 24/7 Day Gold Plan - Unlimited access to McCall Dining Center /Student Engagement Commons during all operating hours, plus four guest passes and \$200 in Tiger Bucks per semester.
 3. Tiger 24/7 Day Platinum Plan - Unlimited access to McCall Dining Center/Student Engagement Commons during all operating hours, plus six guest passes and \$300 in Tiger Bucks per semester.
 4. Tiger 24/5 Day Plan - Access to McCall Dining Center/Student Engagement Commons Monday through Friday during all operating hours, plus three guest passes and \$300 in Tiger Bucks per semester.

III. REVISION/REVISED HISTORY

Revision- January 15, 2018