

2025-2026 Meal Equivalency Rates for FSMC Contracts

Total free lunch reimbursement + PBR + USDA donated food value for lunch = Meal Equivalency Factor

For **non-safety net districts**, the meal equivalency rate for the 2025-2026 school year is **\$4.995**.

For **safety net districts**, the meal equivalency for the 2025-2026 school year is **\$5.015**.

Note that the rates are carried out to three decimal places to the right to accommodate the ½ cent increase in the donated food value for the period of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

Sample conversion: Total cash sales = \$2,500 ÷ \$4.995 = 500.50 meals (**non-safety net**)

Total cash sales = \$2,500 ÷ \$5.015 = 498.50 meals (**safety net**)

Districts contracted with an FSMC should provide the meal equivalency rate for their company and monitor monthly invoices to ensure that the correct rate is used in the billing process.