

UMBC DEPARTMENT OF CAMPUS CARD AND MAIL SERVICES
CAMPUS MEAL PLANS
TERMS AND CONDITIONS
2016 – 2017

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

www.dineoncampus.com/umbc

Details concerning all aspects of meal plans, including serving and equivalency times, are available at www.dineoncampus.com/umbc.

UMBC dining services are provided by Chartwells Inc. Campus meal plans are administered by the UMBC Department of Campus Card and Mail Services (CCMS) <http://campuscard.umbc.edu>. The UMBC Campus Card serves as your campus ID and is used to access meals plans, as well as, the various funds that may be placed on your Card account for dining purposes. These include Retriever Dollars, Food Funds, Flex Dollars and Chartwells Reward Points.

UMBC MEAL PLAN CATEGORIES

MANDATORY/VOLUNTARY

UMBC issued meal plans are designed as a weekly, recurring amount of meals to use campus-dining facilities, or as blocks containing a specific number of meals that may be used as needed during the semester. The term “mandatory” refers to meal plans having a minimum weekly count of 12 and the Super 225 Block plan. The Residential Life Housing License defines which residents are required to have a mandatory meal plan. It is a Residential Life requirement and is not negotiable as it relates to health issues associated with having ready access to dining resources.

All other residents may purchase any meal plan, including the smaller quantity/count “voluntary” plans. Weekly Meal Plan activation begins with breakfast on the first day of classes for the semester and ends with dinner on the last day of the semester. Meal use counters are set to the weekly maximum upon activation. There may be periods during the semester, such as the Fall Thanksgiving Break and the Spring Semester Break, when the dining facilities are shut down and meal plans are not in effect.

As noted, weekly meal plans do not begin until the first day of classes. Meals provided during the pre-semester move-in period are not part of the purchased meal plan. Pre-semester meal costs for the weekly plans are covered by the University. Access to meals is made available in accordance with the announced move-in schedule for each group of residents. Meals are not provided to any group prior to the announced date. To accommodate pre-scheduled arrivals and move-in “helpers”, guest passes (if associated with the meal plan) and Flex Dollars may be used during the move-in period at True Grits and retail venues. All “denied access” issues must be addressed by the CCMS office.

MEAL PLAN TYPES

RECURRING REGULAR PLANS

The weekly count meal plans reset with breakfast each Monday morning. Unused meals do not carry forward to the next week. Once the total count for the week has been reached, no additional meals are available until Monday morning with the reset to the weekly count of the plan.

BLOCK PLANS

The block plans are presented as a total count of meals that are available for an entire semester. They do not reset on a weekly basis. A special feature of the block plans is the ability to do multiple swipes during the same meal period at True Grits. Once the total count for the plan has been reached, no additional meals are available through that particular block plan. Additional block plans may be purchased at any point during the semester.

THE ULTIMATE PLAN

This Ultimate plan allows unlimited entry into True Grits during any meal period for the entire semester. Retail use, however, is restricted to one equivalency use per meal period. Additionally, the first use of The Ultimate Plan during any specific meal period determines subsequent use for the remainder of that meal period. If that first use is at True Grits, no meal equivalency may be used for that period; if that first use is an equivalency, True Grits may not be entered during that period.

MEAL PLAN REFUNDS
RECURRING REGULAR PLANS

Students can change their Recurring Regular meal plan and Ultimate meal plan during the first two weeks of a semester (the grace period). During this time the processing fee will be waived. After the grace period, if a student chooses to change their Recurring Regular meal plan a processing fee will be charged for reducing, or dropping the Recurring Regular Plan.

BLOCK PLANS

Students can change their Block meal plan during the first two weeks of a semester (the grace period). During this time, the processing fee will be waived. After the grace period, Block Plans are NOT refundable with the exception of changing to a Recurring Regular, or Ultimate meal plan.

PER DIEM CHARGES

The dining services vendor is paid per active meal plan in our system, not for meals eaten. This arrangement exists to assure adequate food availability for the maximum potential diners on any particular day. Weekly meal plan holders are responsible for these per diem charges regardless of plan use. Charges for dropped or changed weekly plans are calculated based on the prorated time any existing plan was active in the system. Block plans and Flex Dollars are calculated on use, not proration. The addition of a weekly plan after the start of the semester is prorated as of the day of activation; Flex Dollars are applied at full value regardless of the date. Block Plans are billed at full value regardless of the date.

RETAIL OPERATIONS IN TRUE GRITS

LATE NIGHT AND OUTTAKES

True Grits offers 19 serving times during the typical week based on the traditional breakdown of breakfast, lunch /brunch and dinner. Food is available in True Grits outside these meal periods through Late Night and Outtakes. Late Night is a retail operation that allows the purchase of food (pizza, subs, sandwiches) through use of a meal equivalency, Flex Dollars, or non-plan money. Late Night is offered in Wing 2 of True Grits, Sunday through Thursday, 8:00 PM – 2:00 AM. Convenience type foods are available in Outtakes every day of the week except between 2:00 – 2:30 AM. Purchases may be made using an available meal equivalence, Flex Dollars or non-plan money.

ASSOCIATE PLANS AND OTHER FOOD DOLLARS

FLEX DOLLARS

Flex Dollars are dedicated funds automatically attached to a specific meal plan which may be used to purchase food at any Dining Services venue. Flex Dollar amounts are pre-determined for each plan and may not be purchased separately, or increased during the semester. While Flex Dollars may be used for any Dining Services purchase, they are intended to cover the difference between a meal equivalency allowance and actual cost at retail venues. Regular semester Flex Dollars do not carry forward and all unused Flex Dollars are forfeited at the end of the semester. The only exception is the Flex 50, or Flex 100 plan offered during the Winter and Summer Sessions where unused Flex Dollars are credited to the subsequent semester. Flex Dollars may only be used at Dining Services venues on campus with one exception, Papa John's Pizza delivery.

RETRIEVER/FOOD FUND DOLLARS

The UMBC Campus Card allows for the depositing of funds to a Card account for use at campus venues. There are two types of deposits to the Campus Card: Retriever Dollars and Food Fund Dollars. Retriever Dollars may be used for any campus purchase that accepts the campus card. Food Fund Dollars may only be used at Dining Services venues. In use, they are analogous to Flex Dollars but may be added at any time and are not forfeited at the end of the semester.

ADDITIONAL DINING BENEFITS

GUEST PASSES

All weekly recurring meal plans of a count 12 or higher, The Ultimate and Super 225 Block include 5 guest passes. These passes grant free entry into True Grits during a regular meal period. Guest passes are only valid at True Grits and may not be used at any other campus location. To use a Guest Pass, inform the cashier of your intention and an available pass will be taken from your account. You must personally present your Campus Card to use this feature. Guest passes are not transferable and any remaining passes are forfeited at the end of the semester.

RT Tickets

The RT system can also be accessed at campuscard.umbc.edu

- Select *campus card center; meals; meal plan descriptions*
- Scroll to the bottom, select *click here to purchase a meal plan*. In the subject line type either: NEW MEAL PLAN or CHANGE MEAL PLAN.
- Fill out all appropriate boxes
- Click **Submit**

PLAN AND CAMPUS CARD INFORMATION

Information concerning account balances for meal plans, flex dollars, Retriever/food fund dollars and reward points may be viewed under myUMBC/Topics/Billing and Personal Finances/Account Inquiry/Manage Campus Card. Inquiries may also be directed to CCMS by submitting an RT Ticket, or by phone, 443-612-2273. The Campus Card Service Counter is located in the University Center, first floor. Hours of operation are 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.