

## A Guide to Choosing the Right Meal Plan

Meal plans are required for all residence hall students. Below is a summary of the available options. The biggest change is the shift from a debit transaction ala carte program to an all-you-care-to-eat program in the main dining location, Mabee Hall.

### General information

- In general, the higher the cost of the plan, the better the value of the plan.
- Meals are set-up by semester not by the week. One week a student may eat 21 meals and another week only ten. The total meals in the plan are what are available for the semester. Unused meals are lost at the end of each semester.
- Meal points may only be used in Mabee Hall.
- Meal points are not transferrable to others or to subsequent semesters.
- Mabee Hall meal service will generally operate from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days per week.
- Because the Mabee plan features all-you-care-to-eat service, take-out is not available.
- Bonus Bucks may be used in any dining location, including the convenience store, but excluding the Skyline Room.
- Unused Bonus Bucks will roll over from fall to spring. Unused bonus bucks at the end of the spring semester will be forfeited.
- This year, students will have until August 31, 2011 to switch plans and may switch plans between semesters.
- All of these plans are available to non-residential students and there are two commuter plans (\$350 Bonus Bucks with a \$15 add-on and the \$500 plan with a \$25 add-on). The add-ons are offered as plan incentives compared to Tiger Bucks.

### Option 1

Flex 200 Meal Plan includes 200 Meal Points + \$475 Bonus Bucks – Cost is \$1,660/Semester (plus applicable sales tax)

### *Description*

Under this plan students can dine at Mabee Hall 200 times over the course of the semester. One meal point is deducted each time the student enters. Once in Mabee Hall, students can make multiple trips into the serving area. The bonus bucks may be used in any other dining location except the Skyline Room.

### *Features*

- On average, this will allow for approximately 12 visits to Mabee Hall each week. This plan is the least expensive, though offers the least value. Each meal costs about \$5.92 if all of them are used.
- This plan offers the highest Bonus Bucks, which offers greater flexibility for those utilizing the Commons and other dining locations.

*Best bet for...*

This is probably a good selection for those uncertain about how many meals will be eaten in Mabee Hall and for light eaters.

**Option 2**

Flex 240 Meal Plan includes 240 Meal Points + \$400 Bonus Bucks – Cost is \$1,785/Semester (plus applicable sales tax)

*Description*

Under this plan students can dine at Mabee Hall 240 times over the course of the semester. One meal point is deducted each time the student enters. Once in Mabee Hall, students can make multiple trips into the serving area. The bonus bucks may be used in any other dining location except the Skyline Room.

*Features*

- On average, this will allow for approximately 15 visits to Mabee Hall each week. Each meal costs about \$5.77 if all of them are used.
- This plan offers fewer Bonus Bucks than option one, but still provides substantial flexibility for those utilizing the Commons and other dining locations.

*Best bet for...*

For the typical student, this is a good plan. It is for those who plan to eat around two meals a day in Mabee Hall, with a meal or so to spare each week. The lower bonus bucks can easily be supplemented with Tiger Bucks.

**Option 3**

Unlimited meal plan + \$200 Bonus Bucks – Cost is \$2,025/Semester (plus applicable sales tax)

*Description*

Under this plan students can enter Mabee Hall an unlimited number of times over the course of the semester. This plan offers the greatest value, with meals costing, on average, below \$5 per meal (assuming about 21 or more meals per week). The bonus bucks may be used in any other dining location except the Skyline Room.

*Features*

- Students can enter the dining as frequently as they wish (up to three times per meal period) and eat a little -- or full meals -- without worrying about tracking meal points.
- The plan offers the lowest amount of bonus bucks for other locations.

### **Best bet for...**

This is the best plan for heavy eaters or frequent users of the dining hall. It is the most expensive plan, but has the highest value per meal. The low bonus bucks probably will need to be supplemented with Tiger Bucks.

### **Junior and Senior Plan**

\$1,600/Semester Bonus Bucks only (plus applicable sales tax)

### ***Description***

While juniors and seniors may select any of the other plans, this option is designed to for those living in the upper-class residence halls who wish to prepare some of their own meals and eat off-campus with greater frequency. It costs the least and has no restrictions, except for use in the Skyline Room.

### ***Features***

- Students on this plan may still eat in Mabee Hall. Rather than using a meal point, students pay from the bonus bucks balance, which starts at \$1,600. Each meal period features a door rate for customers not on the other meal plan options and for visitors to campus.
- This plan offers great flexibility for juniors and seniors utilizing all of the campus dining locations.

### ***Best bet for...***

Juniors and seniors who want more flexibility in their dining plan after two years using Mabee Hall as the primary dining location will want to consider this plan. The door rates in Mabee, as listed below, make this less of a value for those who prefer to eat several meals there per week.

### **Mabee Hall Door Rates**

Those paying with cash, Bonus Bucks, or Tiger Bucks may purchase meals in Mabee Hall as follows:

Breakfast – \$6.50

Lunch – \$7.50

Dinner – \$8.50