

University Dining Service Fact Sheet

Sodexo Partnership

UM-Flint is fortunate to have a partnership with Sodexo who has extensive food service experience and resources. The University has a contractual management arrangement with Sodexo. A mandatory meal plan is necessary to provide a large enough volume of business to make operating a dining service program at UM-Flint feasible for Sodexo.

Meal Plans

UM-Flint students living in Residential Housing are responsible for paying room and board. The board consists of a \$1,379 (effective fall 2011) meal plan program per student per semester. The \$1,379 meal plan is based on approximately 14 meals per week.

Residential students, commuter students, as well as faculty and staff, may purchase commuter meal plans. There are \$50, \$100, \$200 and \$400 options. Commuter meal plans are valid for one year from the signing of the contract. Free gift cards for one trip to the Riverview Dining Room are included as an incentive for purchasing the \$100 (1 gift card), \$200 (3 gift cards) and \$400 (7 gift cards) commuter meal plans.

Meal Plan Design

The University of Michigan-Flint designed the residential meal plan policy after practices at other universities in Michigan. Most universities have meal plan programs and the cost of a UM-Flint meal plan program ranks fifth lowest out of thirteen public institutions of higher education in Michigan.

The meal plan program begins the day resident hall students move in and continues through the end of fall semester in December or at the end of winter semester in April. Meal plan balances do not carry over to the next semester as the dining dollars are used to offset expenses incurred during the semester for which they were purchased. This is common practice at other universities and necessary to produce a reliable budget. Residence Hall students are encouraged to pace their spending so that their dining dollars are depleted by the last day of the meal plan program each semester.

Blue Bucks

Blue Bucks are a debit card service that was designed to supplement a meal plan and is available to all registered students of the University of Michigan. Blue Bucks funds can be added to your valid M-Card on line using an electronic check and low balance warnings in the system can be enabled for family members authorized to view balance and transaction history. Authorized family members have the ability to add funds to the M-Card at any time. Blue Bucks funds remaining at the end of the FALL term will automatically carry over to the WINTER term. You are able to request a refund of unused Blue Bucks funds from the Cashier's Office located in Room 261 University Pavilion.

Residential students may use Blue Bucks in the food/beverage vending machines in the First Street Residential Housing complex. To add money to an M-Card or for more information, visit <http://www.myplan.housing.umich.edu/>.

Riverview Dining Room

Meal plan dining dollars and Blue Bucks can be used to pay for entry into the Riverview Dining Room. The Riverview Dining Room is an "all-you-care-to-eat" dining experience featuring soup and salad bar, hometown daily specials, stir-fry station, pizza and pasta bar, make your own waffle, dry cereals, and of course, desserts and a variety of beverages. The Riverview Dining Room is open during the fall and winter semesters (September through April) for lunch Monday-Friday from 11:30am-2:30pm and for dinner Monday-Thursday from 5pm-7:30pm at \$6.49 per person.

As part of our efforts to be environmentally friendly, the Riverview Dining Room has opted out of the use of trays (less food wasted) and beverage straws. The Riverview Dining Room weekly menu can be found at www.umflint.edu/diningservices/WeeklyMenuNEW.htm.

UCEN Food Court

In addition to Riverview Dining Room, meal plan dining dollars and Blue Bucks can be used to purchase items at *Grill 155*, *Clint's Cafe* and *Simply To Go*. *Grill 155* offers burgers, chicken strips, hot soup (seasonal), bottled and fountain soft drinks, and breakfast anytime. *Clint's Cafe* offers a variety of made-to-order sandwiches, soups, pastries, and an espresso bar. *Simply To Go* offers many grab-and-go items including sandwiches, salads, veggie and fresh fruit cups, granola/yogurt, and several microwavable items such as mac & cheese and stuffed shells. Also look for a variety of convenience food items such as chips, 2-liter bottles of soft drinks, bread, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, milk, etc.

Check the University Dining Services website for current hours at http://www.umflint.edu/diningservices/loc_hours.htm

UCEN and WSW Information Centers/Snack Bars

Meal plan dining dollars and Blue Bucks can be used to purchase items at both the UCEN and WSW Information Centers. Snack items at these locations include bagels, muffins, cookies, pretzels, pizza, juice, fountain soft drinks, and coffee. Look for a third information center opening in the fall of 2011 located in the Theater Lobby of French Hall.