

Chestnut Residence Meal Plan Agreement 2023/2024

University Food Services (UFS)

Our mission is to provide a wide range of affordable, sustainable, and nutritious food options through excellent service, commitment to our environment and the celebration of food to reflect our diverse community.

UFS is committed to enhancing the overall student experience within the dining hall and developing food standards and campus wide initiatives such as a commitment to local food purchasing, a bottled water free campus, waste management and compost programs and working with food rescue partners within our downtown community.

Where Your Meal Plan Dollars Go

Your, non-refundable, Residence Tax-Exempt, Meal Plan represents a commitment to spend a predictable amount of funds in the dining halls, (and other facilities connected to the program), over a specific period.

In return for this commitment to spend the Food Services team plans the annual program, hours of operation, staffing levels and corresponding services. The meal plan funds contribute to associated costs, such as but not limited to, labour, equipment and facility maintenance and utilities.

The meal plan does not include an overhead fee by way of a contribution to these costs; instead, each menu item purchased is priced containing a contribution.

Meal Plan Terms & Conditions Acknowledgement and Acceptance

Prior to activation of your meal plan all residents are required to review and acknowledge the Meal Plan Terms & Conditions Acknowledgement. This will be included in the occupancy and admission process to your residence of choice. Failure to acknowledge the Meal Plan Terms & Conditions prior to moving into residence will result in the meal plan not being activated and the funds not ready for use upon arrival.

Dietary Accommodation

UFS employs a Registered Dietitian (RD) who is available to support students with their dietary and nutritional needs.

Residents with dietary needs, including but not limited to those with health concerns, religious or cultural traditions, are encouraged to complete our [Dietary Restrictions – Self Declaration](#) form in advance of their arrival.

The UFS RD will work directly with the student to determine and agree on how best their needs can be accommodated.

Chestnut Meal Plans

Meal Plans are mandatory for Chestnut Residents and are referred to in this agreement as the Residence Meal Plan.

Accepting a placement in the Chestnut Residence is an automatic acceptance of a Residence Meal Plan and all the terms and conditions therein. All costs and fees associated with the mandatory Residence Meal Plan are included in the Occupancy Fee.

Meal plans are declining balance with the residence dining dollars loaded onto your [TCard](#) at the beginning of the year, and, like a traditional debit account, residence dining dollars are deducted from your meal plan account when you make your food purchases.

The **Dining Dollars** portion of the meal plan is available for the following purposes:

- To purchase tax exempt food and beverages, (as per Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) regulations), at both the [New College Dining Hall](#) and the [Chestnut Dining Hall](#)
- Students may also use dining dollars to purchase a variety of food and beverages that form part of a meal from [selected retail outlets across campus operated by UFS](#). Residence Dining dollars can only be used to purchase tax exempt items freshly prepared by UFS.

For example, a pre-packaged product such as a bag of chips would not be tax exempt, but a sandwich and beverage prepared on campus using fresh ingredients would be tax exempt.

TBucks**

All plans are preloaded with TBucks**

TBucks can be used to buy taxable pre-packaged food items like bags of chips, candy bars and traditional convenience items that are not considered part of a meal by the CRA.

Meal Plan Options

There are three meal plans to consider before selecting your preferred option. The only difference between each plan is the amount of residence dining dollars included within the plan.

- **Plan A** – This plan works best for students with lighter appetites who are not on campus during weekends and occasionally have meals off campus.
- **Plan B** – This plan works best for students with average appetites who tend to stay on campus most weekends.
- **Plan C** – This plan works best for students with larger appetites who stay on campus during weekends also great for students involved in athletics

Plan A

	Term 1	Term 2	Total
Dining Dollars	\$2,790	\$2,790	\$5580
CIF	\$150	\$0	\$150
TBucks	\$100	\$0	\$100
Total	\$3,040	\$2,790	\$5,830

Average Weekly Spend - \$180

Plan B

	Term 1	Term 2	Total
Dining Dollars	\$3,035	\$3,035	\$6,070
CIF	\$150	\$0	\$150
TBucks	\$100	\$0	\$100
Total	\$3,285	\$3,035	\$6,320

Average Weekly Spend - \$195

Plan C

	Term 1	Term 2	Total
Dining Dollars	\$3,280	\$3,280	\$6,560
CIF	\$150	\$0	\$150
TBucks	\$100	\$0	\$100
Total	\$3,530	\$3,280	\$6,810

Average Weekly Spend - \$210

All meal plans are portable, providing you the opportunity to purchase food and beverage items from the New College and Chestnut Dining Halls and select UFS operated retail outlets across campus such as the Robarts, MSB and Sid Smith café locations. Visit the [Where to eat on campus page](#) for a list of all locations.

Students have the freedom to choose the items they like to eat from a variety of locations, enabling you, to fully utilize your plan where and when and how it best suits your needs.

* The **Residence Capital Improvement Fund (CIF)** is a non-refundable fee used for capital investments that directly enhance the residence dining experience, facilities, environment, and equipment. It is an upfront fee deducted directly from your meal plan at the commencement of Term 1.

**** TBucks**

Each meal plan includes a preloaded amount of TBucks. TBucks is a common form of currency accepted across campus. They can be used to purchase taxable pre-packaged food items like bags of chips and candy bars or for textbooks and payment for printing and photocopying on campus. Additional TBucks can be purchased by anyone in possession of a TCard for use on the St. George and U of T Scarborough Campuses ([TBucks Policy](#))

Terms and Conditions

1. Participation in a tax-exempt meal plan is part of the residence occupancy agreement and is mandatory.
2. Residents must present their [TCard](#) at the time of purchase and declare to the Food Services cashier their wish to use Residence Dollars to make a purchase. A [TCard](#) should be treated as a credit/debit card and kept in a secure location. Any funds used between the time a [TCard](#) is lost/stolen/destroyed and reporting of the loss will not be refunded.

3. The full year of funds will be loaded onto the resident's meal plan account prior to move-in. Residents are responsible to budget accordingly. A Meal Plan Budgeting Calculator is available on the Food Service website. [Food Services at University of Toronto Budget Calculator](#)
4. Changing or topping up a Meal Plan
 - a. Residents with Plan B or C who determine that a smaller plan would better suit their needs will have up to **October 31, 2023**, to change their original selection. Residents with Plan A who determine a larger plan would better suit their needs will have up to **October 31, 2023**, to change their original selection. No changes are permitted after **October 31, 2023**.
 - b. Residents who determine they may need additional residence dollars during the academic year can add funds to their account – referred to as a “top-up”.

Balances can be topped up during the academic year by contacting the [Chestnut Residence Life Office](#); funds will take up to 24 hours to appear in your account. If you require a more immediate top up on your account, please contact the [Food Services Meal Plan Office](#) to load funds using either a debit or credit card.

5. Carryover

The Meal Plan is a requirement of the residence occupancy agreement, and all residents are encouraged to participate and fully utilize their meal plan. For those residents who do not use all their Tax-Exempt Residence Dining Dollars prior to the end of the academic year, a limited carryover is permitted. Remaining carryover funds will be transferred to TBucks. Each Meal Plan has a limit with regards to a carryover amount.

- a. Carryover Limits
 - Plan A \$300 less \$50 administrative fee
 - Plan B \$450 less \$50 administrative fee
 - Plan C \$550 less \$50 administrative fee
 - b. All carryover transactions are subject to a \$50 Administrative Fee
 - c. Carryover limits within the maximum for each plan will be automatically converted to TBucks within 5 business days after the end of the academic year for use in the summer and/or following academic year in accordance with the [TBucks Policy](#).
 - d. Meal plan balances with \$50 or less will **not** qualify for a refund or carryover.
 - e. No refunds on remaining balances over and above the carryover limits.
6. For residents who withdraw from residence early in accordance with Residence Occupancy Terms and Conditions the following will apply.
 - a. Refunds are limited to the Residence Dollars portion of the meal plan.
 - b. No refunds on the CIF portion of the meal plan.
 - c. Prior to December 1st
 - Refunds are subject to a 30-day minimum charge and a pro-rated charge per day from the time the resident lived in residence past the first 30 days, or amount spent,

whichever is the greater, up to a maximum of 50% of the allotted Term 1 residence dining dollars.

- Term 2 – full refund of residence dining dollars minus any overspend of Term 1 allotment
- Refunds incur a \$25 administration fee that will be deducted from the refund amount.

d. December 1st to end of Term 1

- After December 1st Term 1 is deemed complete-no refunds of unspent Term 1 residence dining dollars.
- Dining dollars spent over Term 1 allotment will be deducted from refunds of Term 2 dining dollars.
- Refunds incur a \$25 administration fee that will be deducted from the refund amount.

e. Commencement of Term 2 to March 1st

- Term 1 is deemed complete - no refunds of unspent Term 1 residence dining dollars.
- Term 2 daily rate applies for refunded amount. Refunds up to a maximum of 50% Term 2 Residence Dining dollars
- Refunds incur a \$25 administration fee that will be deducted from the refund amount.

f. After March 1st

- No refunds issued. Carryover policy will apply.

Meal Plan Key Dates

1. Meal Plan Commences: September 2nd, 2023.
2. Term 1 commences with dinner service on September 2nd, 2023
3. Meal Plan options- want to alter your original selection? - cut-off date: October 31, 2023.
4. University Winter Holiday Closure: December 21st, 2023, to January 2nd, 2024, inclusive.
5. Dining Hall Winter Closure begins end of day December 20th, 2023, and reopens beginning breakfast on January 7th, 2024.
6. Term 2 commences with breakfast service on January 7th, 2024
7. Meal Plan End Date April 30th, 2024.
8. Meal Plan Carryover Funds - qualifying amount transferred to TBucks** and available for redemption beginning May 8th, 2024.

Additional Resources

Check your meal plan balance [here](#)

Meal Plan Calculator [here](#)

TBucks/TCard FAQ [here](#)