

Meal Plan 101

To ensure you find a meal plan that fits, we offer four different meal plans to choose from. For our students who live on campus we offer the Gold, Silver and Bronze meal plans. They each have differing amounts of Board Meal credits and Flex Cash to meet your needs. We also have the Commuter meal plan for students who live off campus or live in on campus apartments. When choosing a meal plan, you may want to consider your daily routine. How many meals do you eat each day in the café? Does your work or athletic schedule allow for you to have breakfast, lunch and dinner in the café? One of the best things you can do is take a few minutes to sit down, think about your schedule and make a simple budget that gives you a framework to control your daily spending.

The Gold Plan

(100 Board Meal Credits + \$725 Flex Cash \$2475 semester)

We've found that this plan is ideal for most of our residents who enjoy eating at the Saint Gertrude Café. If you frequent the café most meals, this is the plan for you. To take full advantage of the Gold plan you need to go to six of the nine AYCTE meals each week.

The Silver Plan

(85 Board Meal Credits + \$825 Flex Cash \$2340 semester)

This plan is right for you if you dine less frequently or are sometimes away on weekends. It is also a good choice if you are looking for a lighter plan and have a spending rate that is fairly average and you will be dining during 5 of the nine AYCTE meal periods each week. This plan allows for more flexibility in making retail purchases.

The Bronze Plan

(60 Board Meal Credits + \$925 Flex Cash \$2210 semester)

This plan is designed for the student who dines less frequently on campus or enjoys extracurricular activities that may keep them off campus during some AYCTE meal periods. Eating during four of the nine AYCTE meal periods each week will take full advantage of the Bronze plan.

The Commuter Plan

(30 Board Meal Credits + \$325 Flex Cash \$860 semester)

This is the ideal plan for the apartment resident or local commuter who tends to dine on campus a bit more frequently. The commuter plan is a convenient way to refuel when spending a long day on campus. Whether it's an espresso and a healthy snack to refuel, lunch or dinner at Saint Gertrude Café, you can use your Flex Cash for all purchases.

At Saint Gertrude Dining Hall, breakfast and lunch are on a declining balance system and you can utilize your Flex Cash to purchase food in the café or any items for sale at The Monk's Bean Café in Harned Hall or at the snack bar and C-Store located in Parsons Dormitory. Dinner and weekend meals are AYCTE (All You Care To Eat). Each AYCTE meal costs one board meal credit. You may choose to use your Flex Cash during AYCTE periods if you only want a light meal. Anytime you make a retail purchase, it's deducted from your Flex Cash balance. If you use up all of your Flex Cash before the end of the semester, you may also make retail purchases with Saint's Cash, cash or your debit card. Board Meal Credits cannot be used for retail purchases.

Saint's Cash is a convenient and easy way to pay for meals on campus. Students and Staff can deposit money onto their Saint Martin's ID card. Some of the benefits of doing this is that you don't have to worry about carrying cash and can avoid ATM surcharges. Another benefit to Saint's Cash is the 10% bonus you receive when you deposit \$100.00 or more onto into your Saint's Cash account! For example when you deposit \$100 into your Saint's Cash account, you receive an additional \$10.00 in free Saint's Cash automatically loaded right onto your SMU ID card! Saint's Cash does expire after one year of inactivity. If you have friends or family visiting you may use your Board Meal Credits, Flex Cash or Saint's Cash to pay for a guest's meal at any time.

At the beginning of the semester, your Student ID card will be credited with the amount equivalent to the plan you have chosen. Students below Junior status are required to have one of the three major meal plans. If no choice is made you will be defaulted to a Gold Plan. As long as a student purchases either a Gold, Silver or Bronze meal plan for Spring Semester, unused Board Meal Credits and Flex Cash will carry over to Spring semester. Commuter plan balances do not carry forward to the spring semester. If a student chooses not to purchase a meal plan for spring semester, any remaining Board Meal Credits and Flex Cash will expire at the end of fall semester. All Board Meal Credits and Flex Cash expire at the end of Spring Semester. Board Meal Credits and Flex Cash cannot be used during winter break or spring break.

Saint Martin's University believes that dining together is a great way for students to meet people, make connections and develop a sense of community. Meal plans enable SMU to offer dining facilities and services that would not otherwise be possible. Bon Appetit is committed to giving you the greatest possible opportunity to get the full value of your plan. If you have questions or need help finding the right plan for you please contact Mellissa Francisco (360) 438-4563 or by email at Mellissa.francisco@stmartin.edu.