

Aldi Martinez-Arcadia University
Dining Currency Opinions

Students have more flexibility with meal swipes and how they can use their meal plan. When purchasing a meal plan, each plan comes with a certain amount of meal swipes a week and Chat points. We have the option of “Chat points” which is equivalent to dollars! First things first, ANYONE can purchase and use points. Meal points are points that students, faculty and staff can use to buy meals or items they choose at different locations around Campus. All meal plans have points except the 19 meal plans.

Points can be used to purchase a guest meal in the Dining Hall or to use for purchases in The Chat, Easton Cafe, or Global Cafe located in Oak Summit. Additional points can be purchased at the Dining Services Office in the Dining Hall. Chat points work just like a debit card; choose your items for purchase and the total price of items is deducted from your balance when you swipe your student ID card at the register.

The 14 Meal Dining Plan includes 14 all-you-care-to-eat meals per week plus 75 in Chat points, the 10 Meal Dining Plan includes 10 all-you-care-to-eat meals per week plus 50 Chat points, the 5 Meal Dining Plan includes 5 all-you-care-to-eat meals per week plus 250 Chat points, and lastly the 80 Block Meal Plan includes 80 all-you-care-to-eat meals per semester plus 250 Chat points. The Chat points that come with your meal plan expire at the end of the semester, but any additional points that you purchase will not expire and the remaining balance will roll over into the next Semester!

According to dining services at Arcadia University, on average, students tend to spend over 200 Chat points each semester on coffee and snacks during non-mealtimes. 1 point= \$1.00. If at any time, you feel like you want to add more points, you can purchase more! Upgrade any meal plan by adding points and avoid worrying about having extra cash on you. These optional funds add greater flexibility and choices and are ideal for coffee on-the-go, late night snacks, and off-hours meals. Students, faculty and staff can use their points by swiping their Arcadia Identification Card (KnightCard) and telling the cashier that they would like to use their points to pay for their transaction. If you want to know how to check your remaining balance of points, here’s a little hack: go to the kiosk at the chat and before you order food, swipe your Knight card and hit points balance and it’ll show up there. You can also ask a cashier at the Dining Hall or the Chat what your point balance is, and they will check for you! If you do not have any more points, your purchase will be declined, and you will have to use cash to purchase the items you want.

So, the next time you’re in need for a late-night snack or just want some ice-cream, don’t worry about paying actual cash for it! Just use your Chat points and enjoy!

