2019 - 2020 Dining Options

Who needs to purchase a meal plan?
A meal plan is mandatory for all residents residing in the residence halls with the exception of Campus Apartments and College Creek. Three meal plans are offered so students can select the one that best suits their particular needs. The Green Plan is designed for the student with a small to average appetite or who may eat off-campus and at home on weekends. This student typically skips breakfast, eats a light lunch and average dinner. The Gold Plan is designed for the student who eats a light breakfast and lunch, and a moderate dinner. The Humboldt Plan is for the student who eats a moderate breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Students living in Campus Apartments, Creekview Apartments, and College Creek can choose from these same three meal plans, as well as the Mini Meal.

More information about the meal plans can be found in the Meal Plan Selection section of this site or at the Dining website http://dining.humboldt.edu/

Dining Services will be available on campus during posted hours on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Dates of Service</th>
<th>Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester&lt;br&gt;115 Total Days of Full Service</td>
<td>August 19 to November 22&lt;br&gt;November 23 to December 1 – Fall Break&lt;br&gt;November 28&lt;br&gt;December 2 to December 20&lt;br&gt;December 21 to January 1&lt;br&gt;January 2 to January 12 – Semester Break</td>
<td>Full – 96 Days&lt;br&gt;Limited Services Available&lt;br&gt;Closed - Thanksgiving Day&lt;br&gt;Full – 19 Days; end of Fall meal plan (12/20/19)&lt;br&gt;Campus Closed&lt;br&gt;Limited Services Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Semester&lt;br&gt;115 Total Days of Full Service</td>
<td>January 13 to March 13&lt;br&gt;March 14 to March 22 – Spring Break&lt;br&gt;March 23 to May 15</td>
<td>Full – 61 Days; Spring meal plan starts (1/13/20)&lt;br&gt;Limited Services Available&lt;br&gt;Full – 54 Days; Spring meal plan ends (5/15/20)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How does a meal plan work?
Students who purchase a meal plan receive J Points. The amount of points depends upon the plan you select. Food items are purchased using J Points which are electronically deducted from your account. It is an a la carte declining balance point system. You are charged only for the items you select and not for missed meals.

The residence hall cafeteria is similar to a co-op in that each resident pays the same share of the fixed operating costs. Fixed operating costs consist of staff wages, benefits, supplies, rent, insurance, utilities, paper products, office costs, cleaning supplies, etc. The fixed operating costs fund operating The J.

For sample point pricing for items in The J visit http://dining.humboldt.edu/sample-menu
What are some of the advantages to a declining balance point system vs. “all-you-can-eat?”
The declining balance system offers a wider variety of food items to select from, allows a higher quality of food, and offers the convenience of being able to take items to go. Additionally, with a declining balance system light eaters do not subsidize heavy eaters. You do not lose J Points for missed meals.

In an “all-you-can-eat” cafeteria the hours are limited, the food quality and selections are limited, the light eaters subsidize the heavy eaters, you cannot take food to go, and you have no options of purchasing prepackaged foods or bottled drinks. With this system, it is to the cafeteria’s benefit if you miss a meal since you have already paid for it.

How many J Points do I have?
Your points are placed on your account at the beginning of each semester. The number of points you receive depends on which meal plan you selected. You can look up your J Point balance and transaction history at http://dining.humboldt.edu/. The Housing Cashier and any Dining Services Cashier can also tell you your J Point balance. Points that you did not use by the end of the fall semester are left on your account to use in the spring semester. Any balance on your account at the end of the spring semester will be lost. You can review a budget sheet to get an idea of how to budget your meal plan at the following link https://housing.humboldt.edu/sites/default/files/budget_sheet.pdf

### Academic Year Dining Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Fixed Cost</th>
<th>J Points Cost</th>
<th>J Points Allotted</th>
<th>Price per J Point</th>
<th>Total Meal Plan Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>$2,928</td>
<td>$2,106</td>
<td>210,600</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$5,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>$2,928</td>
<td>$3,010</td>
<td>301,000</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$5,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humboldt</td>
<td>$2,928</td>
<td>$3,996</td>
<td>399,600</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$6,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini</td>
<td>$1,258</td>
<td>$918</td>
<td>91,800</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$2,176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Semester Dining Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Fixed Cost</th>
<th>J Points Cost</th>
<th>J Points Allotted</th>
<th>Price per J Point</th>
<th>Total Meal Plan Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>$1,464</td>
<td>$1,053</td>
<td>105,300</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$2,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>$1,464</td>
<td>$1,505</td>
<td>150,500</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$2,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humboldt</td>
<td>$1,464</td>
<td>$1,998</td>
<td>199,800</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$3,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini</td>
<td>$629</td>
<td>$459</td>
<td>45,900</td>
<td>$0.01</td>
<td>$1,088</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where can I use my J Points?
J Points may be redeemed at any of the dining service operations. It is important to note that a portion of the initial cost of the meal plan goes toward the operating cost of The J. This fixed cost pays for staff wages, supplies, utilities and so forth. As a result, items in The J and the J Grill are priced without the fixed operating cost; therefore this becomes the best value for spending your J Points. Items purchased at our other dining facilities are listed at cash price with a 25% discount given to customers using J Points.

The J, the main dining cafeteria for residents and the campus, features a choice of three entrées per meal (one vegetarian), a build your own sandwich bar (lunch time only), a salad bar (lunch and dinner), a fruit bar, a variety of beverages, snack items and assorted fruits and desserts. If you wish, you may cook your own breakfast on the grill, make your own waffles or toast your own bread or bagel, as well as purchase assorted “grab & go” meals and full breakfast entrées. The J is also a campus wireless Hot Spot.
**J Grill**, located in The J, is open evenings during the academic year and offers a variety of gourmet burgers, fries, charbroiled chicken and vegetarian options. All dishes that the J Grill serves are custom made to fit the taste of the customers who can watch their food being made through the glass enclosed cooking area.

**Giant’s Cupboard** or The Cupboard is a convenience store for residence hall students located on the 1st floor of the Jolly Giant Commons. It carries a variety of snacks and vegetarian foods, as well as a variety of locally made items. Toiletries and school supplies are available for the student’s convenience.

**The Depot** has several unique food stations that offer a variety of flavors and prices. Some examples include Jack’s Grill, Pizza, Wraps, Smoothie Bar, Salsa City Mexican food and locally roasted organic coffees from Humboldt Bay Coffee Co. and Muddy Waters Coffee and Espresso. At the Depot you can find atmospheres to hang with friends, listen to music, or study in silence. Hot spots or Wireless Internet connections can be found throughout the Depot.

**The Library Café** is a wireless internet coffee bar offering light snacks, coffee and espresso drinks. Conveniently located on the first floor of the Library, the café offers a modern coffee shop environment where students can study, meet with friends, and charge their laptops or cell phones, all while enjoying a bite to eat or their favorite beverage.

**Hilltop Marketplace** offer snacks as well as a variety of locally made food items. Toiletries and school supplies are also available for the student’s convenience.

**College Creek Marketplace** is a full service marketplace, offering a wide variety of groceries, featuring innovative organic and natural products as well as conventional classics. The market also offers a made-to-order sandwich bar, coffee and espresso, local gourmet baked goods, a salad bar, hot soups and more, making it the perfect stop to pick up lunch or a few essentials after class.

**Windows Café** is a full service restaurant, with a gourmet menu that highlights the finest local ingredients that Humboldt County has to offer. Located in the University Center building, Windows Café is a convenient option for a more formal dining experience, without a formal dress code.

**How are items priced in The J?**
A typical entrée is priced at the cost of the ingredients divided by the number of servings, taking into account a waste factor. Prepackaged items are priced at 25% off of the cash price of the item.

**How much do I pay per J Point?**
You pay a penny per J Point, excluding the initial payment of the fixed costs, and can purchase additional J Points at a penny per J Point without paying more fixed costs. Fixed costs are paid only once when the meal plan is opened. Points may not be added to the Mini meal plan.

**Is it possible to run out of J Points?**
To avoid running out of points, we suggest you eat most of your meals in The J, limit the amount of higher priced entrées you select during the year, or purchase a larger meal plan. You can also enjoy significant savings by using fountain drinks and cafeteria prepared items rather than purchasing prepackaged foods and bottled drinks. Rest assured that when you do need to buy additional J Points, they are only a penny per J Point and you are paying only for the cost of that item when you make your selection in The J (i.e. no more operating costs). If you have a Green, Gold or Humboldt meal plan, you can purchase up to a maximum of 399,600 additional points. A maximum of 45,000 additional J Points can be added to the Mini Meal Plan per semester. You can review a budget sheet to get an idea of how to budget your meal plan at the following link
http://dining.humboldt.edu/sites/default/files/budget_sheet_0.pdf
How do I purchase additional J Points?
You can purchase additional J Points at College Creek Marketplace, The Depot, Library Café and Hilltop Marketplace, from one of our kiosks with a credit card, or from the Housing Cashier located on the second floor of the Jolly Giant Commons. Payments can be made in person with cash, check or debit/credit card, mailed to the Housing Cashier with a check, or over the phone with a credit card. You can reach the Housing Cashier at 707.826.5510, by email at housing@humboldt.edu or by mail at Housing & Residence Life ATTN: Housing Cashier, 355 Granite Avenue Arcata, CA 95521-7914

Visit [http://dining.humboldt.edu/](http://dining.humboldt.edu/) to add J Points online with a service fee.

Can I change my meal plan?
We do offer opportunities to change meal plans each semester. Please change your meal plan by September 6, 2019 for the fall semester or by January 31, 2020 for the spring semester. We encourage you to request to change your meal plan before you leave at the end of the fall semester so that your account will show the correct amount for your payment in January.

Who can I contact if I have questions or concerns regarding how the meal plan works?
Ron Rudebock, Director of Dining Services, can be reached at 707.826.3451 or by email rlr4@humboldt.edu and welcomes any comments, suggestions, concerns or feedback that you would like to share. Our website, [http://dining.humboldt.edu/](http://dining.humboldt.edu/) also has detailed information about each meal plan, all of our dining locations, hours of operations and menus.