

# School Lunch Fees FAQs



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**Q 1 Why did Matsudo make the school lunch fees part of the city budget?**

A 1 The purpose of having Matsudo City collectively handle the accounting for school lunch expenses, instead of each school collecting and managing them, is as follows.

- ① To ensure the fairness and transparency of accounting by making it a City budget.
- ② To provide steady school lunches without being affected by the collection status of school lunch fees at each school.
- ③ To be able to take stricter measures against those who do not pay the fee by budgeting as City revenue.
- ④ To reduce the workload of teachers and staff in managing the collection of school lunch fees, dealing with non-payment, and accounting work.

These are the expected effect of the city budgeting. We apologize for any inconvenience this change may cause you, but we ask for your understanding and cooperation.

**Q 2 How are the school lunch fees determined?**

A 2 The price of each meal (including the cost of milk) will be fixed, and multiplied according to the number of school lunches provided per month.

**Q 3 What is the price of each meal?**

A 3 Current prices of a meal for each grade are as follows. We will notify the parents/guardians in the event of a revision.

- Elementary school (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grader) . . . . . 200yen
- Elementary school (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grader) . . . . . 220yen
- Elementary school (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grader) . . . . . 240yen
- Junior high school . . . . . 310yen
- Cost of milk . . . . . 55.24yen



※The cost of milk is determined based on the selling price of milk for drinking purposes set by Chiba Prefecture, and is therefore subject to change each year. The figure above is for 2022.

**Q 4 How much is the total amount of school lunch fees for a whole year?**

A 4 Annual school lunch fees vary from school to school/grade to grade as they are calculated by multiplying the number of school lunches served in a school year by the unit price per meal. The following table (example in the year 2022) shows the approximate cost of annual school lunch fees, calculated using the “standard number of school lunch provision per year” and the current unit price per meal.

Classification	School lunch fee	Cost of milk	Annual school lunch fees 【Total】
Elementary School 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> grades	37,000 yen	10,219 yen	47,219 yen
Elementary School 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> grades	40,700 yen		50,919 yen
Elementary School 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grades	44,400 yen		54,619 yen
Junior High School	52,080 yen	9,280 yen	61,360 yen

**Q 5 Will I be notified of how much I have to pay?**

A 5 A “Notice of Determination of the Amount to be Paid” will be sent to the registered address around May every year. Please check the amount of the school lunch fees to be paid and the payment due indicated on the notice.

**Q 6 How can I pay for school lunches?**

A 6 In principle, the method of payment for school lunches is by bank transfer. This is the most convenient, safe and secure method of payment. Please apply for a bank transfer either by using a “Bank Transfer Request Form” or by applying with “Bank Transfer Application Online Service”. The account transfer request form can be used at any financial institution that has a head office or branch offices in Matsudo City.

Once you have completed the procedure, the designated bank account will be used to pay the school lunch fees for as long as your child/children are enrolled in Matsudo City Elementary and Junior High Schools. (No further action is required when a child enters junior high school.) Please see the city’s official website for more details.



Bank transfer application

The bank transfer payments are to be made as the following schedule.

Bank Transfer Schedule					
Direct debit will be made on the last day of these months					
Due date	June	July	August	October	November
Applicable month(s)	April & May (1 <sup>st</sup> payment)	June (2 <sup>nd</sup> payment)	July (3 <sup>rd</sup> payment)	September (4 <sup>th</sup> payment)	October (5 <sup>th</sup> payment)
Due date	December	January	February	March	
Applicable month(s)	November (6 <sup>th</sup> payment)	December (7 <sup>th</sup> payment)	January (8 <sup>th</sup> payment)	February & March (9 <sup>th</sup> payment)	

**Q 7 Will I have to bear a handling fee when paying by bank transfer?**

A 7 The bank account transfer surcharge will be paid by Matsudo City, so there is no burden for that on the parents/guardian.

**Q 8 Can I pay the school lunch fees in cash to the school?**

A 8 The schools do not accept cash payment. Please make your payment by account transfer.

**Q 9 Do we have to pay for school lunch fee by account transfer?**

A 9 In order to avoid forgetting to pay and to save your time and effort, please use the bank account transfer. If you have any special reason that makes payment by direct debit unable, you may pay at the financial facility using a payment slip provided from the city. (Please see the list of financial institutions that can be used to pay for school lunches on “Important Notice Concerning School Lunch Fees”.) You may also pay for school lunches at Matsudo City Hall and the City Branch Offices.

**Q10 Will Matsudo City be also collecting payments to educational materials, school field trip fees, PTA membership fees, etc. along with the school lunch fees?**

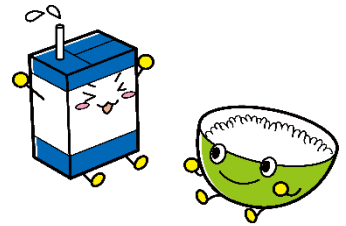
A 10 Only the cost of school lunches will be included in the city budget. Other expenses will not be part of the city budgeting, and will be collected by bank transfer to the school as before. You will need to designate a bank account for each of the city and school.

**Q11 Can I use the same bank account as the one for school fees such as school materials and field trip fees?**

A 11 You can designate the same account as the other school fees.

**Q12 What shall I do if I have two or more children enrolled in schools?**

A 12 Bank account transfer procedures are required for each child. If you have a child who is planned to enter elementary school, we will ask you to complete the procedure at the time of the School Entry Health Checkup.



**Q13 What should I do if I have lost the Bank Account Transfer Request Form?**

A 13 Copies of the Bank Transfer Request Forms are available at every municipal school and financial institution in the city. You can also apply via the “Bank Transfer Application Online Service”.

**Q14 Do I still have to submit a bank account transfer request form if I am receiving public assistance (or school aid)?**

A14 For those households that are receiving or in the process of applying for public assistance (or school aid), please submit an account transfer request form in case your certification status changes due to an increase in income, etc.

However, you are exempted from paying school lunch fees during the period of certification.

**Q15 I wish my child to enroll in a private school. At this moment, I do not know if he/she will be enrolled in an elementary or junior high school in Matsudo, but do I need to submit an account transfer request form?**

A 15 Even if you are thinking to have your child go to school or transfer to a school other than Matsudo municipal elementary or junior high school, please submit an account transfer request form.

**Q16 How can I change my designated financial institution once I have registered?**

A 16 If you wish to change your account, please fill out the “Account Transfer Request Form” and bring it directly to the counter of the new financial institution to complete the account transfer procedures. Please note that since it takes time for the changing procedures to complete, you may be asked to pay at the financial institution with a payment slip in the event of failure of account transfer due to insufficient balance or closure of the account, etc.

**Q17 What should I do if the account transfer was not made due to insufficient balance?**

A17 For the same fiscal year, the amount will be debited on the next bank transfer date together with the next payment.

**Q18 What happens if I do not pay for the school lunch fees promptly?**

A18 If you fail to make the account transfer, Matsudo City will send you a letter of reminder. If payment is still not made after that, or if you do not respond to any correspondence from the city, the city will take strict measures, including legal action such as filing a demand for payment with the court, etc.

If you do not pay for the school lunch for a prolonged period, you will have to pay late fees and court costs that you would not normally have to pay, so please make sure to pay on time.

For junior high school students, they may not be able to reserve for school lunches if the payment is overdue for more than three months, so please make sure to pay your fees in a timely manner.

**Q19 Can I pay at the convenience store with the payment slip?**

A19 The convenience store payment is not available for the moment. Please make payments at the financial institutions listed on the back of the payment slip.

**Q20 Can I pay with a credit card, or a barcode payment such as LINE Pay, etc.?**

A20 Cashless payment is not available.

**Q21 What if I have difficulty paying for the school lunches due to financial reasons?**

A21 Households who have difficulty paying for school lunches due to financial reasons may be eligible for receiving school aids via “Matsudo City School Expense Allowance System (*Shugaku Enjo*)” upon application. If your application is granted, your household’s school lunch fees will be exempted. Please contact your child’s school or the School Financial Affairs Division (047-366-7460) regarding this System.

For inquiries;

Matsudo Board of Education,  
School Financial Affairs Div. School Meal Office

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