



Meal Plan Analysis @ Purdue

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1. What is this PDF about?

✧ As the PDF's title suggests, this is an analysis of Purdue's meal Plan for Fall 25'.

As someone who keeps an account of every penny spent, I find it difficult to buy anything with options without analysing all the options available.

In this PDF, we'll NOT be discussing about the Unlimited meal Plan as that is really subjective & is an outlier for me. It is irrational to analyse a great plan which isn't really a good fit for an average University Student [and their schedule].

Important :-

I'm considering 117 operational days in the Fall Semester. [08/25 - 12/28 : 126 days (inclusive) - 1^{*} Labour day - 4 Fall break days - 4 Thanksgiving break days = 117 ops - day]

2) 7-Meal Plan Analysis

→ Purdue's housing Website [official].

→ Cost on the Starrez Website

⇒ 3,456 \$ / academic year

↳ $3,456 / 2 \Rightarrow 1,728$ \$ / Semester

per year ↑ No. of sems in a year (Summer & Winter are ignored usually)

→ Dinning dollars ⇒ 310 \$ / Semester

↳ This is sort of a currency that works only on campus [only for dinning]

But this currency is quite inflated, it is like paying a vending machine to buy a can of soda [1.5-2x of reg.]

→ Total \$ for meals ⇒ $1,728\$ - 310\$ * [0.7]$

= 1,510 \$ / Semester

↑
an hypothetical Co-eff to counter inflation.

→ Cost per meal ⇒ $1510 \$ / \left(\frac{117 \text{ days}}{7 \text{ days}} \times 1 \text{ week} \times \frac{7 \text{ meals}}{1 \text{ week}} \right)$

⇒ 1510 \$ / 117 meals

⇒ 12.90 \$ / meal (approx.)

→ Conclusion

↳ Each meal in a dinning hall cost 12.9 \$.

3) 10-Meal Plan Analysis

- Cost on the Starrez Website
 - $\Rightarrow 4,894 \$ / \text{academic year}$
 - $\hookrightarrow 4,894 / 2 \Rightarrow 2,447 \$ / \text{Semester}$
- Dining dollars $\Rightarrow 570 \$ / \text{Semester}$
- Total \$ for meals $\Rightarrow 2,447 \$ - 570 \$^* [0.7]$

$$= 2,050 \$ / \text{Semester}$$

↑
an hypothetical
Co-eff to counter
inflation.
- Cost per meal $\Rightarrow 2050 \$ / \left(\frac{117 \text{ days}}{7 \text{ days}} \times 1 \text{ week} \times \frac{10 \text{ meals}}{1 \text{ week}} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow 2050 \$ / 167 \text{ meals}$$

$$\Rightarrow 12.28 \$ / \text{meal (approx.)}$$
- Conclusion
 - $\hookrightarrow$ Each meal in a dining hall cost 12.3\$.

4) 14-Meal Plan Analysis

- Cost on the Starrez Website
 - $\Rightarrow 5,530 \$ / \text{academic year}$
 - $\hookrightarrow 5,530 / 2 \Rightarrow 2,765 \$ / \text{Semester}$
- Dinning dollars $\Rightarrow 440 \$ / \text{Semester}$
- Total \$ for meals $\Rightarrow 2,765 \$ - 440 \$^* [0.7]$

$$= 2,460 \$ / \text{Semester}$$

↑
an hypothetical
Co-eff to counter
inflation.
- Cost per meal $\Rightarrow 2460 \$ / \left(\frac{117 \text{ days}}{7 \text{ days}} \times 1 \text{ week} \times \frac{14 \text{ meals}}{1 \text{ week}} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow 2460 \$ / 234 \text{ meals}$$

$$\Rightarrow 10.50 \$ / \text{meal (approx.)}$$
- Conclusion
 - $\hookrightarrow$ Each meal in a dinning hall cost 10.5 \$.

5) Conclusion

→ After the analysis above, I have reached the following Conclusion :-

1. 14-Meal plan is the best value-for-money Plan.

2. 10-Meal plan is the most flexible plan as you then have 4 meals in a week [out of 14 meals of a week] that you can eat outside / Cook / Use dinning dollar on.

3. **PRO Tip:** Dinning halls accept Dinning dollars too and the breakfast is about 9.5\$, lunch 11\$ and dinner 13\$ - So if you are an average Student who eats 12 times a week in dinning halls : Pay for Breakfast & lunch with the dinning dollars (occasionally) and buy a 10-Meal Plan. [that's what I did]

Thank You for reading!

Boiler Up!

- Aryan Blogs

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