

Payments Increased For School Lunches

School lunch, breakfast, and day care programs will receive increased payments in line with the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced Jan. 3.

The adjustments, effective Jan. 1, reflect the 2.814 percent increase in the CPI for the 6 month period, June-November 1976. The increased payments assist schools and institutions which participate in the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Child Care Food Programs.

In the National School Lunch Program, the national average

payment to states, used in turn by schools and institutions to help defray food costs for each lunch served, will be increased from 13 cents to 13.25 cents. Within that average, states are authorized to vary the rate of reimbursement up to a maximum of 19.25 cents. Previously, the ceiling was 19 cents.

The additional average payment to states for lunches served to needy children will be increased by 1.50 cents, to 50 cents for a reduced-price lunch and 60 cents for a free lunch. The maximum reimbursement states may pay schools and institutions has been increased 1.75 cents to 78.25 cents for a reduced-

price lunch and to 88.25 cents for a free lunch.

Under the School Breakfast Program, the national average payment will be increased by .25 cents to 10.75 cents. The additional average payment for each reduced-price breakfast, which has been 19.50 cents, will be increased to 20 cents. The additional average payment for a free breakfast, which has been 26 cents, will be increased to 26.75 cents. Maximum rates of reimbursement states may pay schools and institutions remain at 40 cents for each reduced-price breakfast and 45 cents for each free breakfast.

States earn payments in the Child Care Food Program at the same levels as they do under the school lunch and school breakfast programs. Payments for mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks have been increased .25 cents to 5.50 cents. Reduced-price snacks will be reimbursed an additional 11 cents, an increase of .25 cents, and free snacks will be reimbursement an additional 16.50 cents, an increase of .50 cents.

The rates of payment announced today are scheduled to appear in the Federal Register of Jan. 4, 1977 and become effective Jan. 1, 1977.



WINTER GARDEN -- Collard plants are thriving in gardens all over the city. The hardy cold weather vegetable with its verdant leaves apparently hasn't suffered any from the prolonged cold snap.



ARE YOU A CLOSET IDEALIST?

Being an idealist today is about as fashionable as wearing a Nehru suit. Even a 200th birthday party hasn't prodded many idealists out of their self-imposed exile.

What can?

Maybe a quick and candid appraisal of the American way of life. Both our economic and our governmental systems are still strong. They remain freedom's best testimonial. Yes, people's shortcomings may have brought the systems into question, but they have survived the faults of their parts.

American freedom today is real, reliable and worth speaking up for. So let's speak up for it. And put ourselves on the line for it. Idealists established our brand of freedom in the 18th century. Idealists will make it flourish in the 21st century.

Idealists like you.

Today, America needs
all the idealism she can get.
Burlington Industries

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