

FLEXIBLE FOOD PLAN (FFP) IMPORTANT INFORMATION

AMDA LA FLEXIBLE FOOD PLAN

Eating well to support academic, artistic, and athletic performance can be difficult – especially on a tight budget and busy schedule. The Flexible Food Plan (FFP) at AMDA's Los Angeles campus is offered as part of a student's financial aid package and is a pre-paid food plan that is required for all first-year students and offered optionally for upper-class students.

The Flexible Food Plan is a declining balance food plan designed to ensure students can have high-quality, fast access to a meal and/or snack(s) on campus throughout the day. The Flexible Food Plan is not intended to carry students in the way a full-service food plan would, so it's important students supplement their FFP with other sources of food (grocery shopping, etc.). Deductions to the account are made based only on what the student purchases in the Café.

The FFP is required for first-year students (1st and 2nd semesters) and is optional but recommended for upper-class students.

It is recommended that students regularly check their FFP balance.

First Year Students (1st - 2nd semester):

- 1st and 2nd-semester students living on campus are required to be enrolled in the FFP and begin with a balance of \$1,800 per semester of their first year.
- 1st and 2nd-semester students living off-campus are required to be enrolled in the FFP and begin with a balance of \$900 per semester for their first year.
- The food plan charge will be incorporated into each student's financial aid package.

Continuing Students (3rd - 8th semester):

- The Flexible Food Plan is optional for 3rd to 8th semester students and will not be automatically added to the student's financial aid packaging unless a form is submitted to opt in for each new academic year.
- The Food Plan form can be electronically submitted via this link:
<https://amdacentral.etrivee.cloud/?isAnonymous=true#form/71>
- A QR code to the form can also be scanned at the Café.
- The options for continuing students are \$1750, \$850 or \$500 per semester for use in the AMDA Café and AMDA Market.
- The selected amount will be charged to your account and deducted from your refund and/or added to a payment plan, depending on your current financial aid packaging.

For any other questions regarding the AMDA LA Flexible Food Plan as it relates to financial aid packaging, please contact the AMDA LA Financial Aid Department at lafinaid@amda.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Flexible Food Plan (FFP)?

Think of the FFP account as a debit card with a declining balance that can be used at the AMDA Café and AMDA Market. When you purchase an item(s), the amount you spend is subtracted from your balance.

Is the FFP required?

The FFP is required for all first-year students and is included as a separate charge within the financial aid package. For all other students, the Food Plan is optional. For any questions regarding having this added to your package, please contact the AMDA LA Financial Aid Department at LAFinAid@amda.edu.

How should I use the FFP?

Students are encouraged to use their declining balance in whatever way works for them. For example, a student may spend \$50 on Monday at the AMDA Café and \$5 on Tuesday.

There is no cap on how much a student can spend in one day. There is no minimum, either. As a guide, the \$1,800 FFP option breaks down to roughly \$17 per day, so if a student uses the FFP daily they should budget for this amount.

Students are encouraged to budget accordingly and be mindful of their remaining balance.

Is the FFP considered a full meal plan?

While not considered a traditional full meal plan, at the \$1800 option a student budgeting carefully would be able to eat all meals at the Café every day of the Semester. There are affordable meal options that would allow a student to stay within a budget of \$17 a day. Students are allowed to use the FFP account as they choose and must budget at their own discretion.

Can the FFP be waived?

Since the FFP is designed to ensure students are getting the nutrition they need to be successful at AMDA, it generally cannot be waived by first-year students. If the food served by the FFP is inaccessible to you due to a disability, allergy, or other medical condition, please contact the Disability Resource Center staff at DRC@amda.edu as soon as possible.

How can I find out my balance, and/or add funds to my account?

Your remaining balance will always be printed on your receipt in the Café or market. By accessing your user profile on the AMDA Café Online Ordering site or checking at any AMDA Café location, students and parents can check their balance, and add additional funds to their account.

How is the AMDA Café affiliated with AMDA?

The AMDA Café is independently owned and operated by a third-party vendor. Since 2008, AMDA has had a wonderful working relationship with the Cafe. Although not owned or operated by AMDA, the Cafe and AMDA Administration work closely to ensure students are offered the best possible product at the best possible price.

Can I later request a refund for any unused credit?

Once enrolled, a student cannot cancel the FFP. All students enrolled in the FFP must use the funds before their graduation; any funds not used by graduation will be forfeited.

If I Withdraw (WD) or take a Leave of Absence (LOA) from AMDA, will I be refunded the unused balance of my FFP?

- Students who take leave will have credit for their unused FFP balance left within their student's Cafe account to use upon their return to campus.
- Students who withdraw forfeit any unused FFP balance.
- Students who initially take leave and later withdraw forfeit any unused FFP balance.

What happens to unused FFP funds at the end of the semester?

- Unused FFP funds will roll over from term to term while you are attending AMDA, but after graduation or upon leaving AMDA all funds will be forfeited if not exhausted, so please be sure to use up your balance by graduation.
- Funds do not transfer to the NY Campus, as AMDA's LA Cafe is not affiliated with Baguette and Co (NY's Food Vendor); both vendors are third-party owned and operated.

• • • • •

The AMDA Café is the central food operation for the AMDA Los Angeles campus offering a wide range of prepared breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack items, an Espresso Bar serving coffee drinks, smoothies, and fountain beverages, a Hot Line serving hot breakfast and lunch, and a Grill open in the evenings for made-to-order meals.

Menu options are available for vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, and omnivore diets. Ingredients are listed on all packaging labels. Here's a link to our online menu:

<https://amdacafe.revelup.com/weborder/?establishment=1>

The AMDA MRKT, located on the 3rd floor of the Vine building, is a conveniently packaged food market with meals, snacks, bottled beverages and an Espresso Bar.

The Café and the MRKT have a variety of pre-packaged and refrigerated meals to be taken away and eaten outside of the Café or in your residence hall. Microwave ovens will be available inside the Café, MRKT and at a number of sites around campus to allow you to heat and eat your meals at your convenience. Food will be in microwave-safe packaging and will have heating instructions on the label.

The AMDA Café is accessible to AMDA students, faculty, and staff through both online ordering or in-store purchases. A food plan is not required to utilize the AMDA Café. All payment types are accepted including cash, credit or debit card, and the AMDA LA Flexible Food Plan. Online orders must be paid online (either with the Flexible Food Plan Account or credit/debit card) in advance of pickup.

The AMDA MRKT is in-store purchase only. All payment types are accepted, but online ordering is not available.

How to Make an In-store Purchase

To make an in-store purchase just enter the AMDA Café or MRKT, make selections for the coolers or the Hot Line and pay at one of the two Café registers. If using your Flexible Food Plan, simply show the cashier your student ID to complete your purchase. Students are not permitted to use other student's IDs or accounts to purchase items.

How to Make an Online Order Purchase

To make an online order from the AMDA Café:

1. Go to our online ordering site: <https://amdacafe.revelup.com/weborder/?establishment=1>
2. Select the desired menu item(s) and select "Checkout".
3. Select "Checkout" and select a payment type.
4. Enter your name, phone number and AMDA email.
5. If you are using the Flexible Food Plan or AMDA Café Account. Select "Gift Card" and enter your student ID number (once entered, the Gift Card button will show your remaining balance). If you are using a Credit Card, select Credit Card and enter your card information and select "Apply"
6. You will be sent an SMS text message when your order is ready to pick up.
7. Proceed to the Order Pickup Shelf in the center of the Café.
8. Present your Student ID to a cashier to verify your order.