COMPARISON OF RESIDENTAL MEAL PLANS AT SELECTED INSTITUTIONS (The sources of this information are the web sites of the universities.)

Institution	Type of Plan	Cost	Notes
Central Arkansas	Unlimited cafeteria meals	\$1,120 ¹	
ASU-Jonesboro	Unlimited cafeteria meals	\$1,295	
UA-Fayetteville	Unlimited cafeteria meals	\$1,663	Includes \$140 in flex dollars
UA-Little Rock	15 cafeteria meals per week	\$1,300	Includes \$100 in flex dollars
McNeese State	Unlimited cafeteria meals	\$1,199	Includes \$75 in flex dollars
Nicholls State	19 cafeteria meals per week	\$1,470	Includes \$225 in flex dollars
Texas State	250 cafeteria meals	\$1,200	Includes \$75 in flex dollars
Sam Houston State	Unlimited cafeteria meals	\$1,650	Includes \$100 in flex dollars

¹UCA's budget shows a slightly smaller figure.

Note 1: Flex dollars means credit for purchasing meals in other on-campus dining facilities such as food courts, student center snack bars, or coffee shops.

Note 2: Listed in the table are all Arkansas schools which compete athletically in NCAA Division I, except UAPB. I was unable to obtain the cost of the 20 meal per week plan but the costs of individual meals included in that plan is between \$5 and \$6 per meal. Extrapolating that would make their cost approximately in line with UA-Fayetteville and UA-Little Rock.

Note 3: The other four schools were randomly selected from the football playing members of the Southland Conference (UCA's conference).

Institution	Estimated Cost Per Meal ¹
ASU	4.54
McNeese	3.94
Nicholls	4.36
Sam Houston	5.44
Texas State	4.50
UAF	5.34
UALR	6.67
UCA	3.93

 1 For those institutions that have unlimited meals the number of meals was computed as 19 meals per week * 15 weeks which is a total of 285 meals. Estimated cost per meal was computed as (cost – flex dollars) divided by meals.

