

MVCDC Support

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Are Counting Meals and Being LATE or TARDY Related To Each Other?

Richard Woolf - 2025-08-12 - [ChildPlus](#)



Counting Meals and being LATE or TARDY are independent from each other.

TARDY and LEFT EARLY statuses are set by ChildPlus automatically based on the official start and ends times for each classroom:

-- If a student is signed in more than 60 minutes after the official start time of the classroom then they will be labeled TARDY.

-- If a student is signed out more than 60 minutes before the official end time for the classroom then they will automatically be labeled LEFT EARLY.

Since the introduction of the ChildPlus attendance app at the beginning of the 2023-2024 program year (even before attendance was moved into ChildPlus Online) staff have been instructed that there is no need to be concerned with either TARDY or LEFT EARLY as these are automatically set by ChildPlus. **There is nothing the teacher, FSS, or C&F Supervisor needs to do concerning the TARDY and LEFT EARLY statuses.**

TARDY and LEFT EARLY attendance statuses are not based on if a child does or does not receive a meal.

Meal-related Rules:

- Meals **must** be recorded at the time they are served to the children (required by our funding).
- If a child is late to class and arrives outside of the official breakfast time, they can be served a breakfast, but it **does not** get recorded as a meal served.

It is best practice to enter a note saying a meal was served outside of breakfast time. That makes it easier to remember what happened if there is a question later.

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