Policy: The financial aid budget for all juniors and seniors includes an increased board allowance to help reduce cost considerations when choosing a dining option. In 2012-13, the board allowance for juniors and seniors is $7,605, $1,925 more than the cost of the University unlimited meal plan. If you take a University meal plan, join a food co-op, or eat independently, you will generally spend less than the budgeted amount on food. If you join an eating club, this higher board allowance will make it easier to afford a club meal plan.

Keep in mind that this does not mean that financial aid will pay an eating club directly, nor does it change the way you receive aid funds.

If you take a University meal contract: The charge for the meal plan will be included on your University bill. Since University board contracts cost substantially less than the $7,605 board allowance, families typically see a savings on the amount they owe the University. You may estimate your 2012-13 University bill online at https://sweb2.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/Estimator/estimator.pl.

If you join an eating club, go independent, or join a food co-op: There will be no board charge from the University on your student bill. For most students, this means that you will owe less to the University than you did in your sophomore year. Because your University bill is likely to be lower, it should be easier for your family to pay an eating club directly, or for you to purchase food elsewhere. Students who qualify for aid credits in excess of $46,000 may have an aid refund available from their student account to help with their non-University charges, including dining expenses. If you are eligible for a refund, you may request a ‘credit release’ online at www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts prior to the start of the fall term.

If you take a shared club/college meal plan contract: The effect on your student account will be essentially the same as for any other club member. There will be no charge on your student account for your shared meal plan since the clubs will bill you directly. The Block 95 plan portion of the shared contract will be covered by your club fees.

We hope this information helps as you think about your choices. We encourage you to visit our Online Bill Estimator at https://sweb2.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/Estimator/estimator.pl to see how your University bill may be impacted by your dining choice.

*Detailed ‘credit release’ instructions can be found on the second page of this publication.
Using Financial Aid to Pay Your Club

For most students receiving financial aid, the additional assistance they receive as juniors and seniors reduces the Princeton bill, freeing up their family resources to pay an eating club directly.

In most cases, students on financial aid will pay club their club bills directly, just as non-aid families do.

However, students qualifying for large grants (in excess of $46,000) may have aid available to help pay their club after the University bill is paid.

To see if you have excess funding available, follow these steps:

1) Visit www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts. Click on “Viewing and Paying Your Bill.”

   TUITION & STUDENT BILLING BASICS
   Undergraduate Student Accounts
   Graduate Student Accounts
   Viewing & Paying Your Bill

2) Login to TigerPay to see if you have a credit balance.

   If you have a credit balance in your student account, you may release the credit to your club as follows:

3) Return to the “Viewing and Paying Your Bill” web page and click “Undergraduate Student Accounts” on the right hand side of the page.

   RELATED TUITION, STUDENT BILLING & LOANS
   Department Charges to Student...
   Graduate Student Accounts
   Undergraduate Student Accounts...

4) From the “Undergraduate Student Accounts” page, click “Credit Release Form” on the right hand side of the page.

   RELATED FORMS
   Credit Release Form
   Scholarship Information For N...

The Student Accounts Office will forward payment to your club 7-10 business days after the fall semester begins. You will receive an email receipt confirming your credit release request. You should forward this receipt to your club manager so your club is aware of any pending payment.