

CACFP Child Meal Pattern

Breakfast (All three components required for a reimbursable meal)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	¾ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Vegetables or Fruits (or portions of both)	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents)				
Bread, Rolls, Muffins, Biscuits	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Ready-to-Eat Breakfast Cereal	½ cup	½ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Flakes or Rounds Puffed Cereal	¾ cup	¾ cup	1 ¼ cup	1 ¼ cup
Granola	⅛ cup	⅛ cup	¼ cup	¼ cup
Cooked Cereals, Grains, Rice, Pastas	¼ cup	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Meat/Meat Alternates* *Optional, may be served in place of grain up to three times per week	½ oz eq*	½ oz eq*	1 oz eq*	1 oz eq*

**At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters

Lunch and Supper (All five components required for a reimbursable meal)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	¾ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Meat/Meat Alternates	1 oz eq	1½ oz eq	2 oz eq	2 oz eq
Lean Meat, Poultry, Fish	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Cheese	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Egg	½ egg	¾ egg	1 egg	1 egg
Yogurt	½ cup	¾ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Cooked Beans	¼ cup	⅜ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Tofu	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Nut or Seed Butters	2 Tbsp	3 Tbsp	4 Tbsp	4 Tbsp
Vegetables	⅓ cup	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Fruits (or a second different vegetable)	⅓ cup	¼ cup	¼ cup	¼ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents)				
Bread, Rolls, Muffins, Biscuits, Crackers, and other Bread Products	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Cooked Cereals, Grains, Rice, Pastas	¼ cup	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup

**At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters



Snack (Select two of the five components for a reimbursable snack)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	½ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Meat/Meat Alternates	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Vegetables	½ cup	½ cup	¾ cup	¾ cup
Fruits	½ cup	½ cup	¾ cup	¾ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents)	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq

**At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters

Reference

- 7 CFR 226.20(c)

Resources

- [OSPI Child Nutrition Services CACFP Meal Pattern Trainings](#)
- [Meal Patterns and Menu Planning Webpage](#)
- [CACFP Requirements and Materials Webpage](#)

CACFP Infant Meal Pattern

Breakfast, Lunch, Supper

Component	Birth – 5 Months	6 – 11 Months
Breastmilk or Infant Formula	4–6 fl. oz. breastmilk or formula	6–8 fl. oz. breastmilk or formula AND
Grains or Meat/Meat Alternates, or a combination	(not required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0—½ oz eq (0–4 Tbsp) infant cereal; • or 0–4 Tbsp meat, fish, poultry, whole eggs, cooked dry beans or peas; • or 0–2 oz. cheese; • or 0–4 oz. cottage cheese; • or 0–4 oz. (½ cup) yogurt; • or a combination of the above AND
Vegetables, Fruit, or both	(not required)	0–2 Tbsp vegetables, fruit, or both

Snacks

Component	Birth – 5 Months	6 – 11 Months
Breastmilk or Infant Formula	4–6 fl. oz. breastmilk or formula	2–4 fl. oz. breastmilk or formula AND
Grains	(none required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0—½ oz eq bread; • or 0—¼ oz eq crackers; • or 0—½ oz eq (0–4 Tbsp) infant cereal; • or 0—¼ oz eq ready-to-eat cereal AND
Vegetables, Fruit, or both	(none required)	0–2 Tbsp vegetables, fruit, or both

Abbreviations: fl. oz. = fluid ounces oz eq = ounce equivalent Tbsp = tablespoons



Additional Information

- Breastmilk or formula, or portions of both, must be served at all meals and snacks. It is recommended that breastmilk be served in place of formula from birth through 11 months.
- For some breastfed infants who regularly consume less than the minimum amount of breastmilk per feeding, a serving of less than the minimum amount of breastmilk may be offered, with additional breastmilk offered if the infant is still hungry.
- A serving of a component is required to be offered when the infant is developmentally ready to accept it. All components (except breastmilk) must be offered in the full minimum portion.
- Providers must have a way to track and document developmental readiness, such as using the OSPI CACFP Infant Meal Forms.
- At least one type of formula must be offered by the provider.
- Infant formula and dry infant cereal must be iron-fortified.
- Medical statements are required for exempt (specialized) formulas.
- Fruit and vegetable juices are not creditable for infants.
- All grains served must be made with enriched or whole grain meal or flour. Ready-to-eat breakfast cereals that are fortified are also creditable. (Snack only)
- Ready-to-eat breakfast cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce.
- Yogurt must contain no more than 23 grams of total sugars per 6 ounces. Soy yogurt is not creditable for infants.

Reference

- [USDA's Feeding Infants Using Ounce Equivalents for Grains](#)
- [USDA's Feeding Infants in the CACFP's Appendix F: Infant Foods List](#)

Resources

- [OSPI Child Nutrition Services CACFP Infant Meals Trainings](#)
- [Meal Patterns and Menu Planning Webpage](#)
- [CACFP Requirements and Materials Webpage](#)



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

DATE: June 30, 2017

MEMO CODE: CACFP 16-2017

SUBJECT: Grain-Based Desserts in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

This memorandum provides flexibility in the service of grain-based desserts in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Memorandum CACFP 02-2017, *Grain Requirements in the Child and Adult Care Food Program; Questions and Answers*, October 14, 2016, will be revised to reflect this flexibility.

Grain-Based Desserts

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) was required to update the CACFP meal patterns to align them with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (Dietary Guidelines). The Dietary Guidelines recommend limiting the consumption of added sugars and solid fats as part of a healthy eating pattern, and identify grain-based desserts as sources of added sugars and saturated fats. As a result, under the updated CACFP meal patterns, grain-based desserts cannot count towards the grain requirement at any meal or snack (7 CFR 226.20(a)(4)(iii)), starting October 1, 2017. This requirement was designed to help reduce the amount of added sugar and saturated fats that children and adults consume, which, as a percent of calories, is particularly high in children.

In the proposed rulemaking (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/fr-011515>), USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) requested that commenters provide suggestions for the best way to define grain-based desserts. When stakeholders commented on grain-based desserts in the meal pattern proposed rule, the majority supported no longer allowing grain-based desserts to be part of a reimbursable meal. Commenters also offered a definition for grain-based desserts. Commenters observed that establishing limits on sugar, saturated fat, and other nutrients would require centers and day care homes to evaluate each grain item they serve against the nutrient standards. This would have greatly increased complexity and burden on CACFP operators. FNS agreed and concluded that using categories to define grain-based desserts, instead of establishing nutrient standards, is the best approach for the CACFP. Therefore, FNS adopted the definition requested by numerous commenters to use the foods denoted with a superscript 3 or 4 in Exhibit A of USDA's "*Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs*."

The Exhibit A that was in effect for the CACFP at the time the proposed rule was published, and which commenters recommended for defining grain-based desserts, did not identify sweet crackers (e.g., graham and animal crackers) as grain-based desserts. However, since the publication of the final rule (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/fr-110116>), FNS revised Exhibit A via memorandum CACFP 02-2017, “*Grain Requirements in the Child and Adult Care Food Program; Questions and Answers*”

(<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/grain-requirements-cacfp-qas>) to include sweet crackers as a grain-based dessert. This revision was made to be consistent with the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program (School Meal Programs) which identifies sweet crackers as grain-based desserts. FNS has gathered extensive feedback from stakeholders on the inclusion of sweet crackers as grain-based desserts in order to understand the primary issues with implementation and develop technical assistance resources. Stakeholder feedback shows no longer allowing sweet crackers as part of a reimbursable meal would be particularly challenging compared to other grain-based desserts. Stakeholders reported that sweet crackers are appetizing, low-cost, and shelf-stable, and are frequently served in at-risk afterschool programs and rural areas because of these attributes.

In light of the above, and because stakeholders did not have an opportunity to comment on the revised Exhibit A, FNS understands some flexibility is needed. Therefore, Exhibit A has been further revised to exclude sweet crackers from being designated as a grain-based dessert in the CACFP (see Attachment 1). This revision does not change the designation of sweet crackers for the School Meal Programs’ K-12 meal pattern requirements. As a best practice, FNS encourages centers and day care homes to serve sweet crackers on a limited basis because of their higher added sugar content.

FNS recognizes that centers and day care homes may want to occasionally serve grain-based desserts, such as for celebrations or other special occasions. As a reminder, centers and day care homes continue to have the flexibility to serve grain-based desserts as an additional food item that is not contributing to the reimbursable meal. In addition, FNS will continue to monitor any challenges associated with grain-based desserts to determine if more guidance is needed.

State agencies are reminded to distribute this information to Program operators immediately. Program operators should direct any questions regarding this memorandum to the appropriate State agency.

Regional Directors
State Directors
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State agency contact information is available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-contacts>.
State agencies should direct questions to the appropriate FNS Regional Office.

Original Signed

Angela Kline
Director
Policy and Program Development Division
Child Nutrition Programs

Attachment

EXHIBIT A: GRAIN REQUIREMENT FOR CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS^{1, 2}

Color Key: Footnote 5 = Blue, Footnote 3 or 4 = Red

Group A	Ounce Equivalent (Oz Eq) for Group A	Minimum Serving Size for Group A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bread type coating • Bread sticks (hard) • Chow Mein noodles • Savory Crackers (saltines and snack crackers) • Croutons • Pretzels (hard) • Stuffing (dry) Note: weights apply to bread in stuffing. 	1 oz eq = 22 gm or 0.8 oz 3/4 oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz 1/2 oz eq = 11 gm or 0.4 oz 1/4 oz eq = 6 gm or 0.2 oz	1 serving = 20 gm or 0.7 oz 3/4 serving = 15 gm or 0.5 oz 1/2 serving = 10 gm or 0.4 oz 1/4 serving = 5 gm or 0.2 oz
Group B	Oz Eq for Group B	Minimum Serving Size for Group B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bagels • Batter type coating • Biscuits • Breads - all (for example sliced, French, Italian) • Buns (hamburger and hot dog) • Sweet Crackers⁵ (graham crackers - all shapes, animal crackers) • Egg roll skins • English muffins • Pita bread • Pizza crust • Pretzels (soft) • Rolls • Tortillas • Tortilla chips • Taco shells 	1 oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz 3/4 oz eq = 21 gm or 0.75 oz 1/2 oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz 1/4 oz eq = 7 gm or 0.25 oz	1 serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz 3/4 serving = 19 gm or 0.7 oz 1/2 serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz 1/4 serving = 6 gm or 0.2 oz

¹ In NSLP and SBP (grades K-12), all grains served must meet whole grain-rich criteria. For information on flexibilities, please contact your State agency. For all other Child Nutrition Programs, grains are whole grain or enriched or made with enriched or whole-grain meal and/or flour, bran, and/or germ. Under CACFP child and adult meal patterns, and in NSLP/SBP preschool meals, at least one grain serving per day must meet whole grain-rich criteria.

² For NSLP and SBP (grades K-12), grain quantities are determined using ounce equivalents (oz eq). All other Child Nutrition Programs determine grain quantities using grains/bread servings. Beginning Oct. 1, 2019, grain quantities in CACFP and NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals will be determined using oz eq. Some of the following grains may contain more sugar, salt, and/or fat than others. This should be a consideration when deciding how often to serve them.

⁵ Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K-12) as specified in §210.10. May count towards the grain component in SBP (grades K-12), CACFP, NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals, and SFSP.

Attachment

Group C	Oz Eq for Group C	Minimum Serving Size for Group C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookies³ (plain - includes vanilla wafers) • Cornbread • Corn muffins • Croissants • Pancakes • Pie crust (dessert pies³, cobbler³, fruit turnovers⁴, and meat/meat alternate pies) • Waffles 	1 oz eq = 34 gm or 1.2 oz 3/4 oz eq = 26 gm or 0.9 oz 1/2 oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz 1/4 oz eq = 9 gm or 0.3 oz	1 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz 3/4 serving = 23 gm or 0.8 oz 1/2 serving = 16 gm or 0.6 oz 1/4 serving = 8 gm or 0.3 oz
Group D	Oz Eq for Group D	Minimum Serving Size for Group D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doughnuts⁴ (cake and yeast raised, unfrosted) • Cereal bars, breakfast bars, granola bars⁴ (plain) • Muffins (all, except corn) • Sweet roll⁴ (unfrosted) • Toaster pastry⁴ (unfrosted) 	1 oz eq = 55 gm or 2.0 oz 3/4 oz eq = 42 gm or 1.5 oz 1/2 oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz 1/4 oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz	1 serving = 50 gm or 1.8 oz 3/4 serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz 1/2 serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz 1/4 serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz
Group E	Oz Eq for Group E	Minimum Serving Size for Group E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal bars, breakfast bars, granola bars⁴ (with nuts, dried fruit, and/or chocolate pieces) • Cookies³ (with nuts, raisins, chocolate pieces and/or fruit purees) • Doughnuts⁴ (cake and yeast raised, frosted or glazed) • French toast • Sweet rolls⁴ (frosted) • Toaster pastry⁴ (frosted) 	1 oz eq = 69 gm or 2.4 oz 3/4 oz eq = 52 gm or 1.8 oz 1/2 oz eq = 35 gm or 1.2 oz 1/4 oz eq = 18 gm or 0.6 oz	1 serving = 63 gm or 2.2 oz 3/4 serving = 47 gm or 1.7 oz 1/2 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz 1/4 serving = 16 gm or 0.6 oz
Group F	Oz Eq for Group F	Minimum Serving Size for Group F
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cake³ (plain, unfrosted) • Coffee cake⁴ 	1 oz eq = 82 gm or 2.9 oz 3/4 oz eq = 62 gm or 2.2 oz 1/2 oz eq = 41 gm or 1.5 oz 1/4 oz eq = 21 gm or 0.7 oz	1 serving = 75 gm or 2.7 oz 3/4 serving = 56 gm or 2 oz 1/2 serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz 1/4 serving = 19 gm or 0.7 oz

³ Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K-12) as specified in §210.10 and at snack service in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count towards the grain component in CACFP or NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals beginning October 1, 2017, as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

⁴ Allowable in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week for grades K-12) as specified in §210.10. May count towards the grain component in SBP (grades K-12) and at snack and breakfast meals in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count towards the grain component in the CACFP and NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals beginning October 1, 2017, as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

Attachment

Group G	Oz Eq for Group G	Minimum Serving Size for Group G
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownies³ (plain) • Cake³ (all varieties, frosted) 	1 oz eq = 125 gm or 4.4 oz 3/4 oz eq = 94 gm or 3.3 oz 1/2 oz eq = 63 gm or 2.2 oz 1/4 oz eq = 32 gm or 1.1 oz	1 serving = 115 gm or 4 oz 3/4 serving = 86 gm or 3 oz 1/2 serving = 58 gm or 2 oz 1/4 serving = 29 gm or 1 oz
Group H	Oz Eq for Group H	Minimum Serving Size for Group H
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereal Grains (barley, quinoa, etc.) • Breakfast cereals (cooked)^{6,7} • Bulgur or cracked wheat • Macaroni (all shapes) • Noodles (all varieties) • Pasta (all shapes) • Ravioli (noodle only) • Rice 	1 oz eq = 1/2 cup cooked or 1 ounce (28 gm) dry	1 serving = 1/2 cup cooked or 25 gm dry
Group I	Oz Eq for Group I	Minimum Serving Size for Group I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ready to eat breakfast cereal (cold, dry)^{6,7} 	1 oz eq = 1 cup or 1 ounce for flakes and rounds 1 oz eq = 1.25 cups or 1 ounce for puffed cereal 1 oz eq = 1/4 cup or 1 ounce for granola	1 serving = 3/4 cup or 1 oz, whichever is less

³ Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K-12) as specified in §210.10 and at snack service in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count towards the grain component in CACFP or NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals beginning October 1, 2017, as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

⁶ Refer to program regulations for the appropriate serving size for supplements served to children aged 1 through 5 in the NSLP; breakfast served in the SBP, and meals served to children ages 1 through 5 and adult participants in the CACFP. Breakfast cereals are traditionally served as a breakfast menu item but may be served in meals other than breakfast.

⁷ In the NSLP and SBP, cereals must list a whole grain as the first ingredient and be fortified, or if the cereal is 100 percent whole grain, fortification is not required. For CACFP and SFSP, cereals must be whole-grain, enriched, or fortified; cereals served in CACFP and NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce.

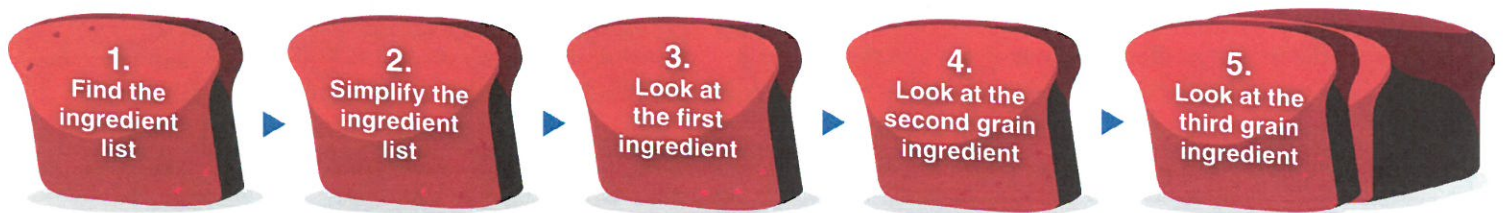
Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Foods for the Child and Adult Care Food Program Using the Ingredient List

The **ingredient list** is printed on the food packaging of products. This list includes information on flours, grains, and other ingredients that are in the product. On the ingredient list, the ingredients are listed in order of quantity. If a whole grain is listed first, you know there is more of that whole grain than anything else in the food.

In the United States Department of Agriculture's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), you can identify grains that are whole grain-rich by looking at the first three **grain** ingredients that appear on the ingredient list. This method is known as the *Rule of Three*. If the ingredient list does not include three grain ingredients, you only have to look at the grain ingredients that are present. Some whole grain-rich foods may have only one grain ingredient.

In the CACFP, at least one offering of grains per day must be whole grain-rich for children and adults. Grain-based desserts may not count towards the grain component in the CACFP, even if the grain-based dessert is whole grain-rich.

Step-by-Step Guide To Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Foods Using the *Rule of Three*



1. Find the ingredient list ►



This ingredient list is for bread. In this example, you would look at the full ingredient list to determine if the bread is whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Whole-wheat flour, water, yeast, brown sugar, wheat gluten, contains 2% or less of each of the following: salt, dough conditioners, soybean oil, vinegar, cultured wheat flour, citric acid.

The ingredient list shown here is for a frozen cheese pizza. Because pizza is a combination food, you can see the ingredients for all the foods within the cheese pizza, such as the crust, cheese, and sauce, are listed within one ingredient list. In this example, you would look at the ingredients for the crust, to determine if the grain component of this food is whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives. **Shredded mozzarella cheese:** Pasteurized part skim milk, cheese, cultures, salt, enzymes. **Sauce:** Water, tomato paste, pizza seasoning, modified food starch.

2. Simplify the ingredient list ►

Look at the “Disregarded Ingredients” list below. Do not consider these ingredients. Some sound like grains, so it can be helpful to cross them out at the beginning.

Disregarded Ingredients:

- Cellulose fiber
- Corn dextrin
- Corn starch
- Modified food starch
- Rice starch
- Tapioca starch
- Water
- Wheat dextrin
- Wheat gluten
- Wheat starch
- Any ingredients that appear after the phrase, “Contains 2% or less of...”

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.

This ingredient list shows some ingredients that can be crossed out to simplify the list.

3. Look at the first ingredient ►

If you have a combination food, like a pizza, look at the part of the ingredient list that refers to the grain product. For this food, the grain product is the pizza crust.

Is the first ingredient a **whole-grain ingredient**?

- ✓ **Yes:** If the first ingredient is whole-grain and the food is not a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal, **go to Step 4** below.
- ✓ **Yes:** If the first ingredient is whole-grain and the food is a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal, see “Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Breakfast Cereals in the CACFP” on page 4.
- ✗ **No:** If the first ingredient is not a whole-grain ingredient, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*
- ✗ **No:** It is possible that the food includes several whole-grain ingredients. When added together, these grains may meet the whole grain-rich requirement. In this case, you would need to request additional information from the manufacturer.

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.

*The first grain ingredient is “**whole-wheat flour**,” which is a **whole-grain ingredient**.*

See the *Whole-Grain Ingredients* chart for some common whole grains. Make sure the first grain ingredient is not listed on the *Enriched Grain Ingredients*, *Bran or Germ Ingredients*, or *Non-Creditable Grains or Flours* charts on the following page.

4. Look for the second grain ingredient ►

Does the food have another grain ingredient?

No: If the food does not have any other grain ingredients, you can **stop here**. The food is whole grain-rich!

Yes: If so, is the second grain ingredient **whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ**? *Make sure the second grain ingredient is not listed on the “Non-Creditable Grains or Flours” chart.*

- ✓ **Yes:** If the second grain ingredient is whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, **see Step 5** on page 3.
- ✗ **No:** If the second grain ingredient is **not** whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.

*The second grain ingredient is “**enriched wheat flour**,” which is an **enriched grain ingredient**. For more information on flour made from more than one grain ingredient, see “Focus on Flour Blends” on page 4.*

* This food might be creditable as a grain that is not being served as a whole grain-rich food. See the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (<https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/FoodComponents/ResourceGrains>) for information on how to determine if an enriched grain is creditable towards the grain component in the CACFP.

5. Look for the third grain ingredient ►

Does the food have a third grain ingredient?

No: If the food does not have any other grain ingredients, you can **stop here**. The food is whole grain-rich!

Yes: If so, is the third grain ingredient whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ? Make sure the third grain ingredient is not listed on the “Non-Creditable Grains or Flours” chart.

✓ **Yes:** If the third grain ingredient is whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, then this food is whole grain-rich! If your product has other grain ingredients, such as a fourth grain ingredient, you do not need to consider them.

✗ **No:** If the third ingredient is not whole-grain, enriched, bran, or germ, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.

The third grain ingredient is “wheat bran,” which is a type of **bran**.

✓ This pizza crust is considered whole grain-rich because the first ingredient is **whole-grain**, the second grain ingredient is **enriched**, and the third ingredient is a type of **bran**.

Whole-Grain Ingredients

- Amaranth
- Amaranth flour
- Brown rice
- Brown rice flour
- Buckwheat
- Buckwheat flour
- Buckwheat groats
- Bulgur
- Corn masa/ masa harina
- Cracked wheat
- Graham flour
- Instant oatmeal
- Millet
- Millet flour
- Oats
- Oat groats
- Old fashioned oats
- Quick cooking oats
- Quinoa
- Rye groats
- Sorghum
- Sorghum flour
- Spelt berries
- Sprouted brown rice
- Sprouted buckwheat
- Sprouted spelt
- Sprouted whole rye
- Sprouted whole wheat
- Steel cut oats
- Teff
- Teff flour
- Triticale
- Triticale flour
- Wheat berries
- Wheat groats
- White whole wheat flour
- Whole corn
- Whole durum flour
- Whole grain corn
- Whole grain corn flour
- Whole grain oat flour
- Whole grain spelt flour
- Whole grain wheat
- Whole grain wheat flakes
- Whole grain wheat flour
- Whole rye flour
- Whole wheat flour

Enriched Grain Ingredients

- Enriched bromated flour
- Enriched corn flour
- Enriched durum flour
- Enriched durum wheat flour
- Enriched farina
- Enriched rice
- Enriched rice flour
- Enriched rye flour
- Enriched wheat flour
- Enriched white flour
- Other grains with the word “enriched” in front of it.

In addition to the ingredients listed above, if the ingredient list states or includes the nutrients used to enrich the flour, then your product has enriched grains. For example, an ingredient list might read: “Durum flour (niacin, iron, riboflavin, folic acid, thiamin).” The vitamins listed in the parenthesis indicate that the durum flour is enriched.

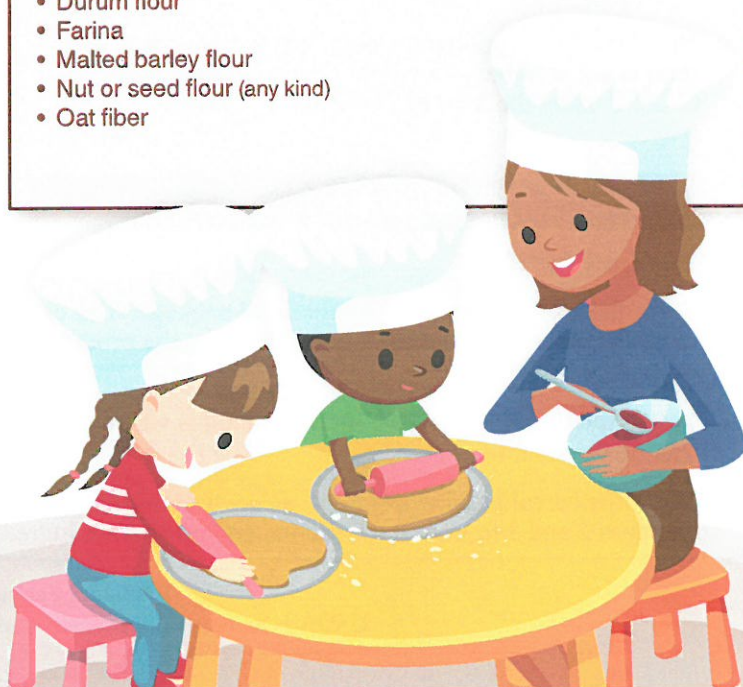
Bran or Germ Ingredients

- Corn bran
- Oat bran
- Rice bran
- Rye bran
- Wheat bran
- Wheat germ

Non-Creditable Grains or Flours

Cannot be one of the first three grain ingredients for whole grain-rich items.

- Barley malt
- Bean flour (such as soy, chickpea, lentil, legume, etc.)
- Bromated flour
- Corn
- Corn fiber
- Degerminated corn meal
- Durum flour
- Farina
- Malted barley flour
- Nut or seed flour (any kind)
- Oat fiber
- Potato flour
- Rice flour
- Semolina
- Wheat flour
- White flour
- Yellow corn flour
- Yellow corn meal



Focus on Flour Blends

You may see an ingredient list that includes a flour blend as an ingredient. The flour blend will be followed by a list of sub-ingredients that make up the flour blend. These sub-ingredients are shown in parenthesis.

Treat these flour blends as one grain ingredient when applying the Rule of Three.

If the flour blend is the first grain ingredient on the ingredient list, then you must determine if the flour blend is a whole grain. If the flour blend is made up of only whole-grain ingredients, then the flour blend is a whole grain. You can now proceed with examining the second and third grain ingredients as described on pages 2 and 3.

If the flour blend includes any grains that are not whole grains, then the flour blend is not considered a whole grain under the *Rule of Three*.

If the flour blend is the second or third grain ingredient, then the flour blend may be made up of whole grains, enriched grains, bran, and/or germ. If the flour blend includes any non-creditable flours or grains, then the flour blend is not a creditable grain ingredient.

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain flour (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour)¹, water, flour blend (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran)², yeast, salt.

1. The **whole-grain flour** can be considered the **first grain ingredient** when using the Rule of Three. The **whole-grain flour** contains only whole grain-ingredients, so it is a **whole-grain ingredient**.
2. The **flour blend** can be considered the **second grain ingredient** when using the Rule of Three. The flour blend contains **whole-grain ingredients** (graham flour), **enriched ingredients** (enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour) and **bran** (wheat bran).
3. This product does not have a third grain ingredient.
✓ The product is considered whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Flour blend (durum flour, bromated flour, brown rice flour), water, salt.

- ✗ This flour blend includes two **non-creditable flours** (durum flour and bromated flour), so the flour blend is not a creditable grain ingredient.

Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Breakfast Cereals in the CACFP

For ready-to-eat breakfast cereals only, if the first ingredient is whole-grain, and the cereal is fortified, then the cereal is whole grain-rich in the CACFP. Remember to check that the cereal also meets the CACFP sugar limit. For more information on sugar limits for cereal, see “Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Added Sugars” at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-meal-pattern-training-worksheets>.



To determine if a ready-to-eat cereal is whole grain-rich:

1. Look at the first ingredient ►

Is the first ingredient a whole-grain ingredient?

- ✓ **Yes:** If the first ingredient is whole-grain, go to Step 2.
- ✗ **No:** If the first ingredient is not a whole grain, then this food is not credible as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain oats¹, corn flour, sugar, salt, tripotassium phosphate, vitamin E. Vitamins and Minerals²: calcium carbonate, iron and zinc, vitamin C, vitamin B6, vitamin A, vitamin B12.

1. The first ingredient is “**whole grain oats**,” which is a **whole-grain ingredient**.
2. The presence of “**Vitamins and Minerals**” on the ingredient list indicates that this cereal is fortified.
✓ This breakfast cereal is whole grain-rich because the first ingredient is **whole-grain** and the cereal is **fortified**.

2. Look for fortification ►

Is the cereal fortified?

Look for the words “fortified” on the food package. You can also look at the ingredient list to see if it lists any vitamins and minerals that have been added to the product. Cereals that are not fortified would not have any added vitamins and minerals.

- ✓ **Yes:** If the cereal is fortified, then this food is whole grain-rich! If your cereal has other grain ingredients, you do not need to consider them.
- ✗ **No:** If the cereal has a whole grain as the first ingredient, but is not fortified, then follow the *Rule of Three* instructions on pages 2 and 3 to look at the second and third grain ingredients.

Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Added Sugars

As of October 1, 2017, breakfast cereal served in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce.

There are many types of cereal that meet this requirement. You can use any cereal that is listed on any sState agency's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)-approved cereal list, found as part of the State's approved food lists at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/links-state-agency-wic-approved-food-lists>. You can also find cereals that meet the requirement using the Nutrition Facts label and by following the steps below:



1 Use the Nutrition Facts label to find the **Serving Size**, in grams (g), of the cereal.

2 Find the **Sugars** line. Look at the number of grams (g) next to Sugars.

3 Use the serving size identified in Step 1 to find the serving size of your cereal in the table below.

Serving Size*	Sugars
If the serving size is:	Sugars cannot be more than:
12-16 grams	3 grams
26-30 grams	6 grams
31-35 grams	7 grams
45-49 grams	10 grams
55-58 grams	12 grams
59-63 grams	13 grams
74-77 grams	16 grams

4 In the table, look at the number to the right of the serving size amount, under the "Sugars" column.
If your cereal has that amount of sugar, or less, your cereal meets the sugar requirement.

*Serving sizes here refer to those commonly found for breakfast cereals. For serving size requirements in the CACFP, please visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/meals-and-snacks>.

Yummy Brand Cereal

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (30g)		
Servings Per Container about 15		
Amount Per Serving	Cereal	with 1% cup skim milk
Calories 100	100	140
Calories from Fat 5	5	5
% Daily Value*		
Total Fat 0.5g	1%	1%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%	0%
Trans Fat 0g		
Polyunsaturated Fat 0g		
Monounsaturated Fat 0g		
Cholesterol 0mg	0%	1%
Sodium 140mg	6%	9%
Potassium 90mg	3%	8%
Total Carbohydrate 22g	7%	9%
Dietary Fiber 3g	11%	11%
Sugars 5g		
Other Carbohydrate 14g		
Protein 140mg		

Test Yourself:

Does the cereal above meet the sugar requirement?
(Check your answer on the next page)

Serving Size: _____

Sugars: _____

☐ Yes ☐ No

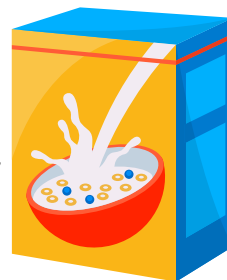
More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <https://teamnutrition.usda.gov>.



Try It Out!



Use the “Sugar Limits in Cereal” table below to help find cereals you can serve at your site. Write down your favorite brands and other information in the “Cereals To Serve in the CACFP” list. You can use this as a shopping list when buying cereals to serve in your program.



Sugar Limits in Cereal

Serving Size	Sugars
If the serving size is:	Sugars cannot be more than:
8-11 grams	2 grams
12-16 grams	3 grams
17-21 grams	4 grams
22-25 grams	5 grams
26-30 grams	6 grams
31-35 grams	7 grams
36-40 grams	8 grams
41-44 grams	9 grams
45-49 grams	10 grams
50-54 grams	11 grams

Serving Size	Sugars
If the serving size is:	Sugars cannot be more than:
55-58 grams	12 grams
59-63 grams	13 grams
64-68 grams	14 grams
69-73 grams	15 grams
74-77 grams	16 grams
78-82 grams	17 grams
83-87 grams	18 grams
88-91 grams	19 grams
92-96 grams	20 grams
97-100 grams	21 grams

Cereals To Serve in the CACFP*

Cereal Brand	Cereal Name	Serving Size	Sugars (g)
Healthy Food Company	Nutty Oats	28 grams	5 grams

*The amount of sugar in a cereal might change. Even if you always buy the same brands and types of cereal, be sure to check the serving size and amount of sugars on the Nutrition Facts label to make sure they match what you have written in the list above.

Answer to “Test Yourself” activity on page 1: The cereal has 5 grams of sugar per 30 grams.
The maximum amount of sugar allowed for 30 grams of cereal is 6 grams.
5 is less than 6, so this cereal is creditable.

Choose Yogurts That Are Lower in Added Sugars

As of October 1, 2017, yogurt served in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) must not have more than 23 grams of sugar per 6 ounces.

There are many types of yogurt that meet this requirement. It is easy to find them by using the Nutrition Facts label and following the steps below.



1

Use the Nutrition Facts Label to find the **Serving Size**, in ounces (oz) or grams (g), of the yogurt.

2

Find the **Sugars** line. Look at the number of grams (g) next to Sugars.

3

Use the serving size identified in Step 1 to find the serving size of your yogurt in the table below.

Serving Size* Ounces (oz)	Serving Size Grams (g) (Use when the serving size is not listed in ounces)	Sugars Grams (g)
If the serving size is:		Sugars must not be more than:
2.25 oz	64 g	9 g
3.5 oz	99 g	13 g
4 oz	113 g	15 g
5.3 oz	150 g	20 g
6 oz	170 g	23 g
8 oz	227 g	31 g

4

In the table, look at the number to the right of the serving size amount, under the “Sugars” column.

If your yogurt has that amount of sugar, or less, the yogurt meets the sugar requirement.

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 8 oz (227g)	
Servings about 4	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 130	Calories from Fat 20
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 2g	3%
Saturated Fat 1.5g	8%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 10mg	3%
Potassium 400mg	1%
Sodium 160mg	7%
Total Carbohydrate 21g	7%
Dietary Fiber 4g	17%
Sugars 9g	
Protein 10g	
Vitamin A 6%	Vitamin C 4%
Calcium 35%	Iron 0%
Vitamin D 6%	

TIP: If the serving size says “one container,” check the front of the package to see how many ounces or grams are in the container.

Test Yourself:

Does the yogurt above meet the sugar requirement?
(Check your answer on the next page)

Serving Size: _____

Sugars : _____

☐ Yes ☐ No



*Serving sizes here refer to those commonly found for store-bought yogurts. Homemade yogurt is not creditable in the CACFP. For serving size requirements of yogurt in the CACFP, please visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/meals-and-snacks>.

More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <https://teamnutrition.usda.gov>.





Try It Out!

Use the “Sugar Limits in Yogurt” table below to help find yogurts you can serve at your site. Write down your favorite brands and other information in the “Yogurts To Serve in the CACFP” list. You can use this as a shopping list when buying yogurts to serve in your program.



Sugar Limits in Yogurt

Serving Size Ounces (oz)	Sugars Limit Grams (g) (Use when the serving size is not listed in ounces)	Sugars
If the serving size is:		Sugars must not be more than:
1 oz	28 g	4 g
1.25 oz	35 g	5 g
1.5 oz	43 g	6 g
1.75 oz	50 g	7 g
2 oz	57 g	8 g
2.25 oz	64 g	9 g
2.5 oz	71 g	10 g
2.75 oz	78 g	11 g
3 oz	85 g	11 g
3.25 oz	92 g	12 g
3.5 oz	99 g	13 g
3.75 oz	106 g	14 g
4 oz	113 g	15 g
4.25 oz	120 g	16 g
4.5 oz	128 g	17 g

Serving Size Ounces (oz)	Sugars Limit Grams (g) (Use when the serving size is not listed in ounces)	Sugars
If the serving size is:		Sugars must not be more than:
4.75 oz	135 g	18 g
5 oz	142 g	19 g
5.25 oz	149 g	20 g
5.3 oz	150 g	20 g
5.5 oz	156 g	21 g
5.75 oz	163 g	22 g
6 oz	170 g	23 g
6.25 oz	177 g	24 g
6.5 oz	184 g	25 g
6.75 oz	191 g	26 g
7 oz	198 g	27 g
7.25 oz	206 g	28 g
7.5 oz	213 g	29 g
7.75 oz	220 g	30 g
8 oz	227 g	31 g

Yogurts To Serve in the CACFP*

Yogurt Brand	Flavor	Serving Size (oz or g)	Sugars (g):
Yummy Yogurt	Vanilla	6 oz	13

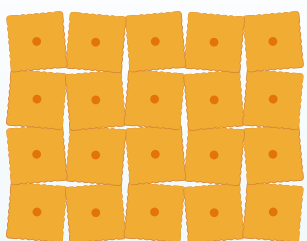
*The amount of sugar in a yogurt might change. Even if you always buy the same brands and flavors of yogurt, be sure to check the serving size and amount of sugars on the Nutrition Facts label to make sure they match what you have written in the list above.

Answer to “Test Yourself” activity on page 1: This yogurt has 9 grams of sugar per 8 ounces (227 grams). The maximum amount of sugar allowed in 8 ounces of yogurt is 31 grams. 9 is less than 31, so this yogurt is creditable.

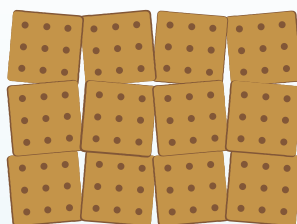
Using Ounce Equivalents for Grains in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Grains are an important part of meals in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). To make sure children and adults get enough grains at CACFP meals and snacks, required amounts for the grains component are listed in the meal pattern as ounce equivalents (oz. eq.). Ounce equivalents tell you the amount of grain in a portion of food.

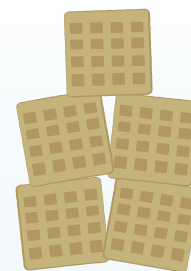
How Much Is 1 Ounce Equivalent?



20 cheese crackers
(1" by 1") = 1 oz. eq.



12 thin wheat crackers
(1 1/4" by 1 1/4") = 1 oz. eq.



5 woven whole-wheat crackers
(1 1/2" by 1 1/2") = 1 oz. eq.

Using the Grains Measuring Chart


The Grains Measuring Chart on pages 2-4 tells you how much of a grain item you need to serve to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements. To use this chart:

- Find the grain you want to serve under the "Grain Item and Size" column.
- Check if the chart lists a size or weight by the name of the grain. If the chart:
- Find the column for the age of your participants and the meal or snack you are serving. This column lists the amount of a grain you will need to serve to meet the meal pattern requirement for grains.

Lists a weight for the grain, such as *at least 56 grams*, then use the Nutrition Facts label for the item you want to serve to make sure it weighs the same, or more than, the grain on the chart. See page 5.

Does not list a weight or size for the grain, then you do not need to check the size or weight of the product before using the chart.

Lists a size for the grain, such as *about 1 1/4" by 1 1/2"*, then check if the item is the same size, or larger than, this amount. See page 6.

 Grain Item and Size		1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack
1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack		
Serve at Least 1/2 oz. eq., which equals about...		
Pita Bread/Round (whole grain-rich or enriched) at least 56 grams*		1/4 pita or 14 grams
Popcorn		1 1/2 cups or 14 grams
Pretzel, Hard, Mini-Twist (about 1 1/4" by 1 1/2")**		7 twists or 11 grams

Grains Measuring Chart for the Child and Adult Care Food Program

 Grain Item and Size	Age Group and Meal		
	1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack Serve at Least ½ oz. eq., which equals about...	6- through 18-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack Adults at Snack only Serve at Least 1 oz. eq., which equals about...	Adults at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper Serve at Least 2 oz. eq., which equals about...
Bagel (entire bagel) at least 56 grams*	¼ bagel or 14 grams	½ bagel or 28 grams	1 bagel or 56 grams
Bagel, Mini (entire bagel) at least 28 grams*	½ bagel or 14 grams	1 bagel or 28 grams	2 bagels or 56 grams
Biscuit at least 28 grams*	½ biscuit or 14 grams	1 biscuit or 28 grams	2 biscuits or 56 grams
Bread (whole grain-rich or enriched) at least 28 grams*	½ slice or 14 grams	1 slice or 28 grams	2 slices or 56 grams
Bun or Roll (entire bun or roll) at least 28 grams*	½ bun/roll or 14 grams	1 bun/roll or 28 grams	2 buns/rolls or 56 grams
Cereal Grains (barley, bulgur, quinoa, etc.)	¼ cup cooked or 14 grams dry	½ cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Flakes or Rounds	½ cup or 14 grams	1 cup or 28 grams	2 cups or 56 grams
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Granola	⅔ cup or 14 grams	¼ cup or 28 grams	½ cup or 56 grams
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Puffed	¾ cup or 14 grams	1 ¼ cup or 28 grams	2 ½ cups or 56 grams
Corn Muffin at least 34 grams*	½ muffin or 17 grams	1 muffin or 34 grams	2 muffins or 68 grams
Cracker, Animal (about 1 ½" by 1")**	8 crackers or 14 grams	15 crackers or 28 grams	30 crackers (~1 cup) or 56 grams
Cracker, Bear-Shaped, Sweet (about 1" by ½")**	12 crackers (~¼ cup) or 14 grams	24 crackers (~½ cup) or 28 grams	48 crackers (~1 cup) or 56 grams
Cracker, Cheese, Square, Savory (about 1" by 1")**	10 crackers or 11 grams	20 crackers (~⅓ cup) or 22 grams	40 crackers (~⅔ cup) or 44 grams
Cracker, Fish-Shaped or Similar, Savory (about ¾" by ½")**	21 crackers (~¼ cup) or 11 grams	41 crackers (~½ cup) or 22 grams	81 crackers (~1 cup) or 44 grams



*Check that the item you want to serve weighs this amount, or more. See "Using the Nutrition Facts Label" on page 5 for more information.

**Check that the item you want to serve is about this size or larger. See "Grains Measuring Tools" on page 6 for more information.

Grains Measuring Chart for the Child and Adult Care Food Program

 Grain Item and Size	Age Group and Meal		
	1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	6- through 18-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack Adults at Snack only	Adults at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
	Serve at Least ½ oz. eq., which equals about...	Serve at Least 1 oz. eq., which equals about...	Serve at Least 2 oz. eq., which equals about...
Cracker, Graham (about 5" by 2 ½")**	1 cracker or 14 grams	2 crackers or 28 grams	4 crackers or 56 grams
Cracker, Round, Savory (about 1 ¾" across)**	4 crackers or 11 grams	7 crackers or 22 grams	14 crackers or 44 grams
Cracker, Saltine (about 2" by 2")**	4 crackers or 11 grams	8 crackers or 22 grams	16 crackers or 44 grams
Cracker, Thin Wheat, Square, Savory (about 1 ¼" by 1 ¼")**	6 crackers or 11 grams	12 crackers or 22 grams	23 crackers or 44 grams
Cracker, Woven Whole-Wheat, Square, Savory (about 1 ½" by 1 ½")**	3 crackers or 11 grams	5 crackers or 22 grams	10 crackers or 44 grams
Croissant at least 34 grams*	½ croissant or 17 grams	1 croissant or 34 grams	2 croissants or 68 grams
English Muffin (top and bottom) at least 56 grams*	¼ muffin or 14 grams	½ muffin or 28 grams	1 muffin or 56 grams
French Toast Stick at least 18 grams*	2 sticks or 35 grams	4 sticks or 69 grams	8 sticks or 138 grams
Grits	¼ cup cooked or 14 grams dry	½ cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Melba Toast (about 3 ½" by 1 ½")**	2 pieces or 11 grams	5 pieces or 22 grams	8 pieces or 44 grams
Muffin and Quick Bread (banana, etc.) at least 55 grams*	½ muffin/slice or 28 grams	1 muffin/slice or 55 grams	2 muffins/slices or 110 grams
Oatmeal	¼ cup cooked or 14 grams dry	½ cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Pancake at least 34 grams*	½ pancake or 17 grams	1 pancake or 34 grams	2 pancakes or 68 grams



*Check that the item you want to serve weighs this amount, or more. See "Using the Nutrition Facts Label" on page 5 for more information.

**Check that the item you want to serve is about this size or larger. See "Grains Measuring Tools" on page 6 for more information.

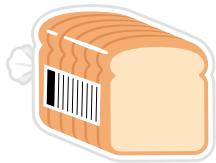
Grains Measuring Chart for the Child and Adult Care Food Program

 Grain Item and Size	Age Group and Meal		
	1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	6- through 18-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack Adults at Snack only	Adults at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
	Serve at Least ½ oz. eq. , which equals about...	Serve at Least 1 oz. eq. , which equals about...	Serve at Least 2 oz. eq. , which equals about...
Pasta (whole grain-rich or enriched, all shapes)	¼ cup cooked or 14 grams dry	½ cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Pita Bread/Round (whole grain-rich or enriched) at least 56 grams*	¼ pita or 14 grams	½ pita or 28 grams	1 pita or 56 grams
Popcorn	1 ½ cups or 14 grams	3 cups or 28 grams	6 cups or 56 grams
Pretzel, Hard, Mini-Twist (about 1 ¼" by 1 ½")**	7 twists (~⅓ cup) or 11 grams	14 twists (~⅔ cup) or 22 grams	27 twists (~1 cup) or 44 grams
Pretzel, Hard, Thin Stick (about 2 ½" long)**	16 sticks or 11 grams	31 sticks or 22 grams	62 sticks or 44 grams
Pretzel, Soft at least 56 grams*	¼ pretzel or 14 grams	½ pretzel or 28 grams	1 pretzel or 56 grams
Rice (all types)	¼ cup cooked or 14 grams dry	½ cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Rice Cake at least 8 grams*	1 ½ cakes or 11 grams	3 cakes or 22 grams	5 ½ cakes or 44 grams
Rice Cake, Mini (about 1 ¾" across)**	7 cakes or 11 grams	13 cakes or 22 grams	25 cakes or 44 grams
Taco or Tostada Shell, Hard at least 14 grams*	1 shell or 14 grams	2 shells or 28 grams	4 shells or 56 grams
Tortilla, Soft, Corn (about 5 ½")**	¾ tortilla or 14 grams	1 ¼ tortillas or 28 grams	2 ½ tortillas or 56 grams
Tortilla, Soft, Flour (about 6")**	½ tortilla or 14 grams	1 tortilla or 28 grams	2 tortillas or 56 grams
Tortilla, Soft, Flour (about 8")**	¼ tortilla or 14 grams	½ tortilla or 28 grams	1 tortilla or 56 grams
Waffle at least 34 grams*	½ waffle or 17 grams	1 waffle or 34 grams	2 waffles or 68 grams



*Check that the item you want to serve weighs this amount, or more. See "Using the Nutrition Facts Label" on page 5 for more information.

**Check that the item you want to serve is about this size or larger. See "Grains Measuring Tools" on page 6 for more information.



Using the Nutrition Facts Label

Some items on the Grains Measuring Chart may have weights listed by the name of the item. Follow the steps below to see if your grain meets the minimum weight listed in the chart:

- Find the grain item and its minimum weight in the Grains Measuring Chart.

For example, the minimum weight for a pancake is at least 34 grams.

Grain Item and Size	Age Group and Meal		
	1- through 5-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	6- through 18-year-olds at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack Adults at Snack only	Adults at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
	Serve at Least ½ oz. eq., which equals about...	Serve at Least 1 oz. eq., which equals about...	Serve at Least 2 oz. eq., which equals about...
Pancake at least 34 grams*	½ pancake or 17 grams	1 pancake or 34 grams	2 pancakes or 68 grams

- Look at the Nutrition Facts label of the grain you wish to serve. Find the weight of the serving size (usually provided as grams (g)). One serving of Brand P pancakes weighs 117 grams.

- Using the Nutrition Facts label, find how many items are in one serving. There are three pancakes in one serving of Brand P pancakes.

- If there is more than one of an item in a serving, you will need to divide to find the weight of each item. For example, the serving size of Brand P pancakes is three pancakes.

Divide the serving weight by the number of items in one serving to find the weight of each item.

Brand P Pancakes

Nutrition Facts	
4 servings per container	
Serving size 3 Pancakes 117g	
Amount per serving	
Calories	280
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 9g	12%
Saturated Fat 1.5g	8%
Trans Fat 0g	

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 117 \text{ grams} & \div & 3 \text{ pancakes} & = & 39 \text{ grams per pancake} \\
 \text{Serving Weight} & & \text{Serving Size} & & \text{Weight of Each Item}
 \end{array}$$

Compare the weight of one item to the minimum weight listed in the Grains Measuring Chart (from Step 1). Is your item the same weight as, or heavier than, the minimum weight?



Yes: Use the Grains Measuring Chart to see how much of your grain to serve to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements. In the example above, pancakes must weigh at least 34 grams in order to use the Grains Measuring Chart. Because each Brand P pancake weighs 39 grams, you may use the chart as a guide to the minimum serving amount.



No: Use another method to determine how much of a grain item to serve. See “What If My Grain Is Different?” on page 6 for more information.



Are There Other Menu Planning Considerations?

If you serve an item that is larger, or weighs more, than what's listed on the Grains Measuring Chart, then you might serve more grains than required by the CACFP meal pattern. The Grains Measuring Chart can help make serving enough grains easier. However, the tools described under “What If My Grain Is Different?” can also help you determine how much of an item to serve to meet the meal pattern without serving more than what is needed.

What If My Grain Is Different?

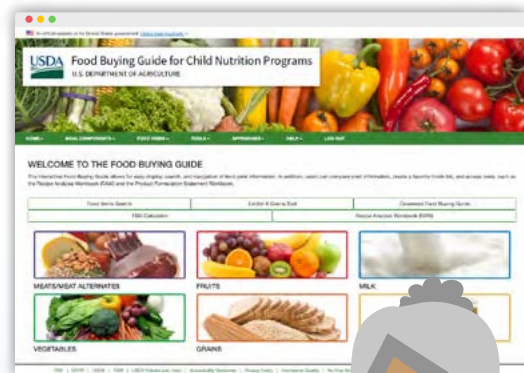
Is the grain item you want to serve:

- Smaller than the item listed on the Grains Measuring Chart?
- Lighter in weight than the item listed on the Grains Measuring Chart?
- Not listed on the Grains Measuring Chart?

If so, you will need to use another way to tell how much to serve in order to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements. You could:

- Enter information from the Nutrition Facts label into the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Program's (FBG) Exhibit A Grains Tool*.^{*} This tool will let you know how many ounce equivalents of grains are in one serving of the item.
- Use the *FBG Recipe Analysis Workbook (RAW)*^{*} to determine the ounce equivalents per serving for standardized recipes.

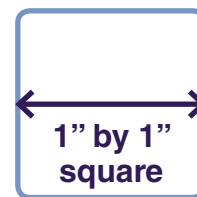
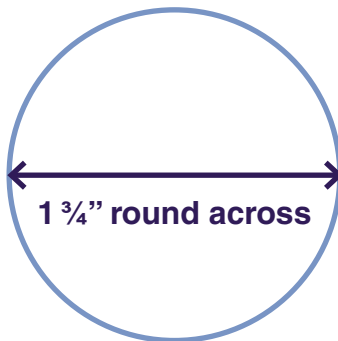
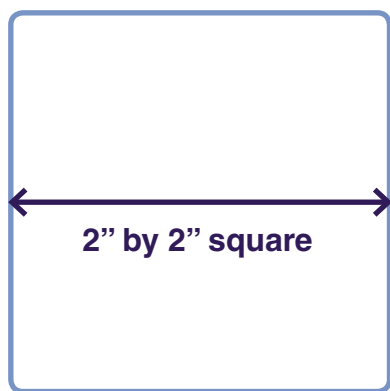
^{*}Available at <https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov>.



Grains Measuring Tools

Compare your food to the guides below to see if it is the same size or larger than the item listed on the Grains Measuring Chart.

Guides appear as actual size when this worksheet is printed at 100% on standard 8 1/2" by 11" paper.



Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

This guidance applies to meals and snacks served in child care centers, family day care homes, emergency shelters, at-risk afterschool care centers, and adult day care centers that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP breakfast meal pattern does not require the meat/meat alternates component. CACFP facilities may substitute the meat/meat alternates component (including tofu and tofu products) for the entire grains component at breakfast up to three times per week. For more information, see the USDA's handout, [Serving Meat and Meat Alternates at Breakfast in the CACFP](#).



Commercial tofu and tofu products must meet two criteria to credit as the meat/meat alternates component:

- they must be easily recognizable as meat substitutes (such as a tofu burger or tofu sausage); and
- the tofu ingredient must contain at least 5 grams of protein in a 2.2-ounce serving by weight ($\frac{1}{4}$ cup volume equivalent).



Commercial Products Made with Tofu

For commercial tofu products, the tofu ingredient must contain 5 grams of protein in 2.2 ounces to credit as 1 ounce of the meat/meat alternates component. Menu planners cannot use the Nutrition Facts panel to determine if commercial tofu products meet this requirement. The Nutrition Facts panel shows the amount of protein in the **food**, not the amount of protein in the **tofu ingredient**. To credit tofu products in CACFP meals and snacks, CACFP facilities must obtain a product formulation statement (PFS) from the manufacturer that indicates the amount of protein in the product per serving. For more information, see the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handout, [Using Product Formulation Statements in the CACFP](#).

Products made with tofu that are not easily recognized as meat substitutes cannot credit as the meat/meat alternates component, even if they meet USDA's protein requirement. Examples include tofu blended into a recipe (such as soup) and tofu that does not represent a meat substitute, e.g., tofu noodles. These foods do not meet the customary and usual function of the meat/meat alternates component. The USDA's intent for this requirement is to ensure that CACFP facilities offer foods from the meat/meat alternates component in a form that is recognizable to participants. The USDA emphasizes the importance of the nutrition education aspect of the CACFP, which includes the goal of helping participants easily recognize the key food groups that contribute to a healthy meal.

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the CACFP

Commercial Tofu

Menu planners must use the Nutrition Facts panel to determine if a commercial tofu product meets the USDA's protein requirement. A product that contains at least 5 grams of protein in a 2.2-ounce serving by weight provides 1 ounce of the meat/meat alternates component. The table below shows how to calculate compliance with the USDA's protein requirement, using the sample Nutrition Facts panel for the tofu product on the right.

This product contains 6.6 grams of protein in 2.2 ounces, which exceeds the USDA's minimum protein requirement of 5 grams. Therefore, a 2.2-ounce serving of this product provides 1 ounce of the meat/meat alternates component, if the product also meets the USDA's requirement for being easily recognizable as a meat substitute.

CACFP facilities must maintain product documentation on file for the Administrative Review of the CACFP.



Nutrition Facts	
5 servings per container	
Serving Size	3 oz. (85 g)
Amount Per Serving	
Calories	90
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 5 g	8%
Saturated Fat 0.5g	
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 15 mg	1%
Total Carbohydrates 2g	1%
Dietary Fiber 0g	20%
Sugars 0g	
Including 0g Added Sugars	
Protein 9 g	
Vitamin D 0mcg	0%
Calcium 0mg	0%
Iron 0mg	0%
Potassium 150mg	4%
* The % Daily Value tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice	
Ingredients: Filtered water, organic soybeans, nigari (a natural coagulant)	

Calculating compliance with the USDA's protein requirement for tofu			
1. List the grams (g) of protein per serving from the Nutrition Facts label.	A	9	grams
2. List the serving size in ounces (oz) from the Nutrition Facts label.	B	3	ounces
3. Calculate the grams of protein per ounce (divide A by B).	C	3	grams per ounce
4. Calculate the grams of protein in 2.2 ounces (multiply C by 2.2).	D	6.6	grams in 2.2 ounces
Is the amount in D at least 5 grams? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
If "yes," the product meets the minimum protein requirement.			

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the CACFP

Resources

Accepting Processed Product Documentation in the CACFP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CACFP/Crediting/AcceptDocCACFP.pdf>

Crediting Commercial Meat/Meat Alternates in the CACFP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditMMA.pdf>.

Crediting Foods in CACFP Adult Day Care Centers (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-CACFP-Adult-Day-Care-Centers>

Crediting Foods in CACFP Child Care Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-CACFP-Child-Care-Programs>

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>

Meal Patterns for CACFP Adult Day Care Centers (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-CACFP-Adult-Centers>

Meal Patterns for CACFP Child Care Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-CACFP-Child-Care-Programs>

Product Formulation Statement for Meat/Meat Alternates (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS_Documenting_Meat_Meat_Alternate_Nov_2019.pdf

Product Formulation Statements (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/PFS.pdf>

Reviewer's Checklist for Evaluating Manufacturer Product Formulation Statements for Meat/Meat Alternates (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/reviewer_checklist.pdf

Serving Meat and Meat Alternates at Breakfast in the CACFP (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/tn/CACFPMeatAlt.pdf>

Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement (USDA):

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/manufacturePFStipsheet.pdf>

USDA Memo SP 53-2016 and CACFP 21-2016: Crediting Tofu and Soy Yogurt Products.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/crediting-tofu-and-soy-yogurt-products-school-meal-programs-and-cacfp>

Using Child Nutrition (CN) Labels in the CACFP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CACFP/Crediting/CNlabelCACFP.pdf>

Using Product Formulation Statements in the CACFP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CACFP/Crediting/PFScacfp.pdf>

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the CACFP



For more information, visit the CSDE's [Crediting Foods in CACFP Child Care Programs](#) and [Crediting Foods in CACFP Adult Day Care Centers](#) webpages, or contact the [CACFP staff](#) in the CSDE's Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This handout is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CACFP/Crediting/CreditTofuCACFP.pdf>.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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