



## **Serving Milk in the CACFP**

Use the information below to see what kind of milk to serve in the Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP) to those in your care.



Newborn through 11 months old

BreastmilkIron-fortified formula

Breastmilk is allowed at any age in CACFP.

**2 years through 5 years** (up to 6th birthday)

✓ Unflavored fat-free (skim) milk ✓ Unflavored low-fat (1%) milk

Unflavored whole milk and unflavored reduced-fat (2%) milk may be served to children between the ages of 24 and 25 months to help with the transition to fat-free (skim) or low-fat (1%) milk.

**12 months through 23 months** (1 year through 1 year and 11 months)

✓ Unflavored whole milk

Iron-fortified formula may be served to children between the ages of 12 months to 13 months to help with the transition to whole milk.

6 through 12 years, 13 through 18 years, and adults

- ✓ Unflavored fat-free (skim) milk
- ✓ Flavored fat-free (skim) milk
- ✓ Unflavored low-fat (1%) milk

Non-dairy beverages may be served in place of cow's milk when a participant has a special dietary need. Please contact your Sponsoring Organization or State agency for more information.



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



## **Try It Out! Milk Matters!**

Use the information on the front of the page to answer the questions below. Check your answers with the Answer Key below.

1. Maya is a 1-year-old at your family child care home and eats lunch at the same time as Darrick, who is 2 years old. What type(s) of milk may you serve each child?

Maya's Age: Type(s) of Milk: Darrick's Age: Type(s) of Milk:

2. Olivia is a  $5\frac{1}{2}$ -year-old who attends your family child care home. What kind(s) of milk may you serve her in the CACFP?

Olivia's Age: Types of Milk:

3. At your adult day care center, you want to serve yogurt at breakfast and again that same day, during lunch. Both times, yogurt would be served in place of milk. Is this allowed? Why or why not?

yogurt as the milk substitute at the same meal. You may serve yogurt at breakfast.

- of milk at one meal per day at adult day care centers only. If you are serving yogurt as the meat/meat alternate, you may not serve 3. No, you are not allowed to serve yogurt instead of milk at breakfast AUD at lunch. You are only allowed to serve yogurt instead
- - unflavored fat-free (skim) milk and unflavored low-fat (1%) milk.

- - 2. Olivia's Age: 5 1/2 years. Type(s) of milk: Because Olivia falls into the 2- through 5-year-old age group, she can be served
- milk to fat-free (skim) or low-fat (1%) milk.

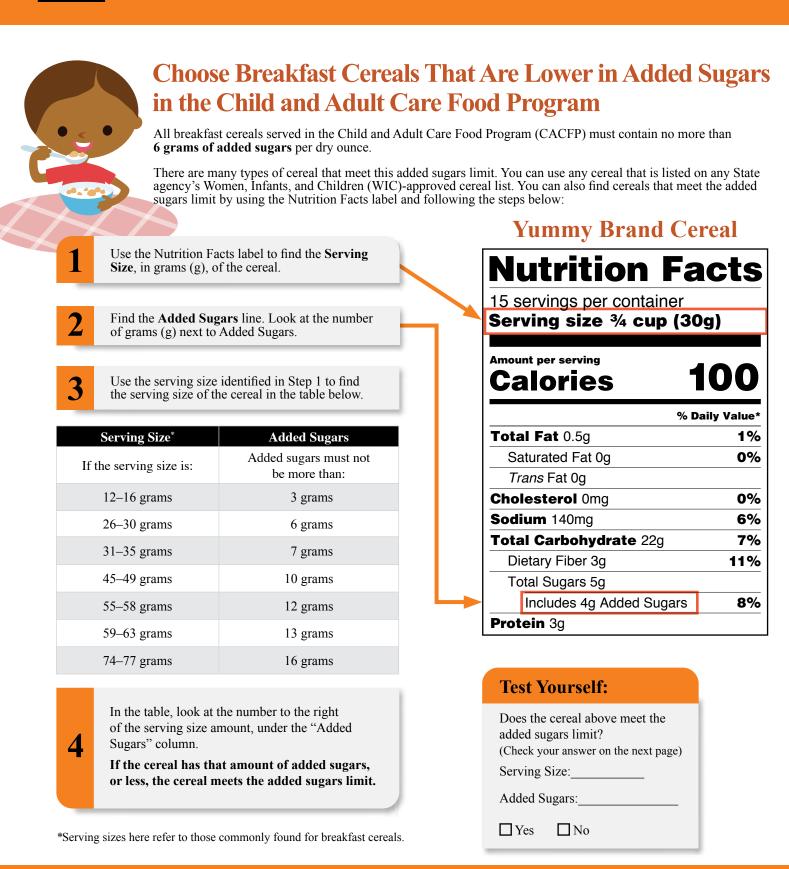
to help children adjust to whole milk between the ages of 12 months and 13 months. is younger than I year and I month (13 months), she can also be served iron-fortified formula. There is a I-month transition period 1. Maya's age: I year. Type(s) of Milk: Because Maya is I year old, she can only be served unflavored whole milk in CACPP. If she

unflavored reduced-fat (2%) milk. There is a 1 month transition period when the child turns 2 to help him or her adjust from whole unflavored low-fat (1%) milk. If he is younger than 2 years 1-month (25 months), he can also be served unflavored whole milk, and Darrick's age: 2 years. Type(s) of Milk: Because Darrick is 2 years old, he can be served unflavored fat-free (skim) milk or

Апзwer Key:



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <u>TeamNutrition.USDA.gov</u>.



# **Try It Out!**

Use the "Added Sugars Limit 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.



## **Added Sugars Limit in Cereal**

Serving Size	Added Sugars	Serving Size	Added Sugars
If the serving size is:	Added sugars must not be more than:	If the serving size is:	Added sugars must not be more than:
0–2 grams	0 grams	50–54 grams	11 grams
3–7 grams	1 gram	55–58 grams	12 grams
8–11 grams	2 grams	59–63 grams	13 grams
12–16 grams	3 grams	64–68 grams	14 grams
17-21 grams	4 grams	69–73 grams	15 grams
22–25 grams	5 grams	74–77 grams	16 grams
26-30 grams	6 grams	78–82 grams	17 grams
31–35 grams	7 grams	83–87 grams	18 grams
36–40 grams	8 grams	88–91 grams	19 grams
41–44 grams	9 grams	92–96 grams	20 grams
45–49 grams	10 grams	97–100 grams	21 grams

## **Cereals To Serve in the CACFP**<sup>\*</sup>

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

\*The amount of added sugars 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 added sugars on the Nutrition Facts label to make sure they match what you have written in the list above. All cereals served must be whole grain-rich, enriched, or fortified.

Answer to "Test Yourself" activity on page 1: The cereal has 4 grams of added sugars per 30 grams. The maximum amount of added sugars allowed for 30 grams of cereal is 6 grams. 4 is less than 6, so this cereal meets the added sugars limit.

FNS-653 | October 2019, Slightly Revised November 2024 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## Calculating the Added Sugars Limit for Breakfast Cereals in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

All breakfast cereals served in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) must contain no more than **6 grams of added sugars** per dry ounce. This is equal to 21.2 grams of added sugars per 100 grams of cereal.

Here are three ways to tell if a cereal meets the added sugars limit.

**Option 1:** Cereals on any State agency's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)-approved cereal list meet the CACFP sugar limit.

**Option 2\*:** Use **USDA's chart** that shows **common serving sizes** of cereals and the **maximum amount of added sugars** they can contain. Find the chart in the CACFP training worksheet, "Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Added Sugars in the Child and Adult Care Food Program" at <u>fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-worksheets-cacfp</u>.

#### Yummy Brand Cereal **Option 3:** Use the information on the cereal's Nutrition Facts label, **Nutrition Facts** and follow the steps below: 15 servings per container Find the Serving Size, in grams (g), of the cereal. Serving size 3/4 cup (30g) Write the number of grams (g) here: Amount per serving 1 Calories If the serving size is "one container," check the front of the package to % Daily Value\* find out how many grams are in the container. Total Fat 0.5a 1% Saturated Fat 0g 0% Trans Fat 0g Find the Added Sugars on the Nutrition Facts label. Write the Cholesterol 0mg 0% 2 Sodium 140ma 6% number of grams (g) of added sugars here: Total Carbohydrate 22g 7% **Dietary Fiber 3g** 11% Total Sugars 5g Includes 4g Added Sugars 8% Divide the grams of Added Sugars by the Serving Size Protein 3q 3 (in grams). grams Added Sugars ÷ grams Serving Size = **Test Yourself:** Does the cereal above meet the added sugars limit? If the answer in Step 3 is **0.212 or less**, then this cereal meets (Check your answer below) 4 the added sugars limit for breakfast cereals in the CACFP. Serving Size: Added Sugars: \*Due to rounding, you may get a slightly different result when using the chart in Option 2 and doing 🗆 No the full calculation in Option 3. If either of these methods indicates that the cereal is within the 2 Yes added sugars limit, then the cereal may credit towards a reimbursable meal.

Answer Key: Yes, this cereal meets the added sugars limit. There are 4 grams of added sugars in 30 grams of cereal. 4 ÷ 30 = 0.13, which is less than 0.212.

More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <u>TeamNutrition.USDA.gov</u>.



FNS-662 | October 2019 Slightly Revised November 2024 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.





## Adding Whole Grains to Your Child and Adult Care Food Program Menu

Whole grain-rich foods are an important part of your menu in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Foods that are whole grain-rich are filled with vitamins, minerals, fiber, and other nutrients that help kids and adults stay healthy.

### How often do I have to serve whole grains in the CACFP?

Each day, at least one of the grain components of a meal or snack must be "whole grain-rich." Whole grain-rich food items must be offered at least once per day, not once per meal/snack. In the CACFP, whole grain-rich means that at least half the grain ingredients in a food are whole grains, and any remaining grains are enriched grains, bran, or germ. This is required for CACFP child and adult meal patterns only. There is no whole grain-rich requirement for infants.

If you serve meals and snacks to the same group of children or adults during the day:

Serve whole grain-rich items for the grain component at one of the meals or snack each day.

If you serve meals and snacks to different groups of children or adults during the same day (for example, morning and afternoon sessions):

 Serve whole grain-rich items for the grain component to one of the groups of children or adults each day.

#### If you serve only snacks:

✓ You do not have to serve a grain component at snack. But if you do, it must be whole grain-rich.

If you serve only breakfast and want to serve a meat or meat alternate:

✓ You do not need to serve a grain, because you are replacing the grain component with a meat or meat alternate. You may do this up to three times per week. On the days when a meat or meat alternate is not served, you must serve whole grain-rich items for the grain component. If you decide to serve a grain as an "extra" food that does not count toward the CACFP meal pattern requirements, then the grain does not have to be whole grain-rich.

If your at-risk afterschool site or adult day care serves breakfast, lunch, or supper using Offer Versus Serve:

✓ All grain items offered at the meal you wish to count towards the whole grain-rich requirement must be whole grain-rich.



Can I serve a grain-based dessert if it is whole grain-rich?

Grain-based desserts, even those made with whole grains, cannot count towards the grain component of a CACFP meal or snack. There are many other tasty whole grain-rich foods that you can add to your menus.

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



### What are some ways to serve whole grain-rich foods at meals and snacks?

The requirement is that whole grain-rich food items must be offered at least once per day. But, you may choose to offer whole grain-rich food items more often. Check out these easy ways to serve whole grain-rich foods:

#### Breakfast Snacks Lunch/Supper Oatmeal\* □ Whole Grain-Rich Crackers □ Whole-Wheat Macaroni or Spaghetti □ Whole Grain-Rich Pancakes or Waffles □ Whole Grain-Rich Pita Triangles Brown Rice Toast Made with Whole-Wheat Bread □ Whole Grain-Rich Cereal Mix\* **Quinoa** □ Whole Grain-Rich Pretzels Whole Grain-Rich English Muffin, Bulgur Bagel, or Biscuit □ Rice Cakes Made with Brown Rice □ Wild Rice □ Whole Grain-Rich Muffin □ Whole Grain-Rich Banana Bread □ Whole-Wheat Bun or Roll Whole Grain-Rich Cereal\* □ Whole Grain-Rich Chips □ Whole Grain-Rich Pizza Crust □ Whole Grain-Rich Tortilla

\*Cereal must meet CACFP sugar limits.

### How can I share information about whole grain-rich foods on my menu?

Some easy ways CACFP providers are highlighting whole grains on their menus include:



Writing "whole wheat" or "WW" in front of an item on the menu, such as "whole-wheat bread" or "WW bread."



Adding a fun grain icon or picture next to whole grain-rich foods.



Placing a check in a checkbox to show that a food is whole grain-rich.

There are no Federal CACFP requirements that you label which foods are whole grain-rich on your menu. Check with your State agency or sponsoring organization to see what they require. Highlighting whole grain-rich foods on your menu communicates to families how you are providing nutritious foods to their loved ones. Families may see this as a sign of the quality of meals and snacks you are offering.

## Try It Out!

Look at the menus for three CACFP sites below. Which menus meet the CACFP requirement for whole grain-rich?

## Menu 1

Served at a child care center that serves one group of children in the morning and another in the afternoon

Breakfast: Chopped strawberries, whole grain-rich waffles, 1% milk

**Lunch:** Baked chicken,1% milk, broccoli, orange wedges, white rice

Shack: Apple slices and string cheese

## Menu 2

Served at an at-risk afterschool center that only serves snack

Shack: Enriched pretzels and hummus (bean dip)

## Menu 3

Served at an at-risk afterschool center that only serves snack

Snack: Celery sticks and sunflower seed butter

Answer Key: Menus I and 3 meet the CACFP requirement for whole grain-rich. Menu 2 does not meet the CACFP meal pattern requirement for whole grain-rich. Because the center only serves snacks, any grains served at snack must be whole grain-rich. The pretzels in this snack are enriched, not whole grain-rich, so this snack does not meet the requirement.

#### FNS-650 August 2018

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Food and Nutrition Service

## 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.

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:** 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.

**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.

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



#### 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 starch

- Rice starch
- Wheat gluten

- Corn dextrin
- Water
- Modified food starch Wheat dextrin
- Tapioca starch Wheat starch • Any ingredients that appear after the phrase, "Contains  $\frac{1}{2\%}$  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?

 $\checkmark$  Yes: If the first ingredient is whole-grain and the food is not a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal, go to Step 4 below.

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.

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

- $\checkmark$  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.
- X 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.\*
- X 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.

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.

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.

X 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.\*

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

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

X 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.\*

**Whole-Grain Ingredients** 

• Teff

• Teff flour

• Triticale flour

Wheat berries

• Wheat groats

Triticale

Amaranth

- Amaranth flour
- Brown rice
- Brown rice flour
- Buckwheat
- Buckwheat flour

· Enriched bromated flour

• Enriched corn flour

• Enriched durum

wheat flour

• Enriched rice

• Enriched farina

• Enriched durum flour

- Buckwheat groats Oat groats
- Bulgur
- Corn masa/ masa harina
- Cracked wheat · Graham flour
  - Instant oatmeal
  - Millet
  - Millet flour
  - Oats
- Old fashioned oats
- Quick cooking oats
- Quinoa

- Rye groats
- Sorahum

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

**Bran or Germ Ingredients** 

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.

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

- - Potato flour
  - Rice flour
  - Semolina
  - Wheat flour
  - White flour
  - Yellow corn flour

Whole grain corn flour

• Whole grain spelt flour

· Whole grain wheat flakes

• Whole grain wheat flour

· Whole grain oat flour

Whole grain wheat

Whole rye flour

· Whole wheat flour

Yellow corn meal

**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.

- Sorghum flour
- Sprouted brown rice
- Sprouted buckwheat

- **Enriched Grain Ingredients**
- Spelt berries

- Sprouted spelt White whole wheat flour • Whole corn • Sprouted whole rye • Sprouted whole wheat • Whole durum flour Steel cut oats
  - Whole grain corn

**Non-Creditable Grains or Flours** 

· Enriched rice flour

#### • Enriched wheat flour • Enriched white flour

· Other grains with

• Enriched rye flour

the word "enriched" in front of it. In addition to the ingredients listed above, if the ingredient

### **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.

### 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 <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-meal-pattern-training-worksheets">https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-meal-pattern-training-worksheets</a>.



#### **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*.\*

#### 2. Look for fortification ►

**INGREDIENTS:** Whole grain flour (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour)<sup>1</sup>, water, flour blend (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran)<sup>2</sup>, 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), <del>water</del>, salt.

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



**INGREDIENTS:** Whole grain oats<sup>1</sup>, corn flour, sugar, salt, tripotassium phosphate, vitamin E. Vitamins and Minerals<sup>2</sup>: 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.

#### 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.

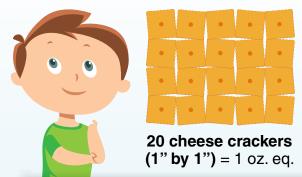
✓ Yes: If the cereal is fortified, then this food is whole grain-rich! If your cereal has other grain ingredients, you do not need to consider them.

X 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.

## **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?





**12 thin wheat crackers** (1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" **by 1** <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>") = 1 oz. eq.



5 woven whole-wheat crackers (1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" by 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>") = 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:

**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*  $1 \frac{1}{4}$ " by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", then check if the item is the same size, or larger than, this amount. See page 6.

3

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.

_		<b>1- through 5-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	
	Grain Item and Size	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 ½ cups or 14 grams	
l	Pretzel, Hard, Mini-Twist (about 1 ¼" by 1 ½")**)	7 twists or 11 grams	





## Grains Measuring Chart for the Child and Adult Care Food Program

	<b>1- through 5-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	<b>6- through 18-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack <b>Adults</b> at Snack only	<b>Adults</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
Grain Item and Size	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
Bagel (entire bagel) at least 56 grams*	1/4 bagel or 14 grams	1/2 bagel or 28 grams	1 bagel or 56 grams
Bagel, Mini (entire bagel) at least 28 grams*	1/2 bagel or 14 grams	1 bagel or 28 grams	2 bagels or 56 grams
Biscuit at least 28 grams*	1/2 biscuit or 14 grams	1 biscuit or 28 grams	2 biscuits or 56 grams
<b>Bread</b> (whole grain-rich or enriched) at least 28 grams*	1/2 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*	1/2 bun/roll or 14 grams	1 bun/roll or 28 grams	2 buns/rolls or 56 grams
<b>Cereal Grains</b> (barley, bulgur, quinoa, etc.)	<sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> cup cooked or 14 grams dry	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Flakes or Rounds	1/2 cup or 14 grams	1 cup or 28 grams	2 cups or 56 grams
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Granola	<sup>1</sup> ∕ <sub>8</sub> cup or 14 grams	1/4 cup or 28 grams	½ cup or 56 grams
Cereal, Ready-to-Eat: Puffed	<sup>3</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> 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

	<b>1- through 5-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	<b>6- through 18-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack <b>Adults</b> at Snack only	<b>Adults</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper
Grain Item and Size	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 <sup>3</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> " 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 <sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> " by 1 <sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> ")**	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*	1/2 croissant or 17 grams	1 croissant or 34 grams	2 croissants or 68 grams
<b>English Muffin</b> (top and bottom) at least 56 grams*	1/4 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	<sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> 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*	1⁄2 muffin/slice or 28 grams	1 muffin/slice or 55 grams	2 muffins/slices or 110 grams
Oatmeal	<sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> cup cooked or 14 grams dry	<sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>2</sub> 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**

	Age Group and Meal			
	<b>1- through 5-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack	<b>6- through 18-year-olds</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper, Snack <b>Adults</b> at Snack only	<b>Adults</b> at Breakfast, Lunch, Supper	
Grain Item and Size	Serve at Least 1/2 oz. eq., which equals about	Serve at Least 1 oz. eq., which equals about	Serve at Least 2 oz. eq., which equals about	
<b>Pasta</b> (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	
<b>Pita Bread/Round</b> (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 1/2" long)**	16 sticks or 11 grams	31 sticks or 22 grams	62 sticks or 44 grams	
Pretzel, Soft at least 56 grams*	1/4 pretzel or 14 grams	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> pretzel or 28 grams	1 pretzel or 56 grams	
Rice (all types)	<sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> cup cooked or 14 grams dry	1/2 cup cooked or 28 grams dry	1 cup cooked or 56 grams dry	
Rice Cake at least 8 grams*	1 1/2 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")**	1 % tortilla or 14 drams 11 % tortillas or 28 drams		2 ½ tortillas or 56 grams	
<b>Tortilla, Soft, Flour</b> (about 6")**	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> tortilla or 14 grams	1 tortilla or 28 grams	2 tortillas or 56 grams	
Tortilla, Soft, Flour (about 8")**	1/4 tortilla or 14 grams	½ tortilla or 28 grams	1 tortilla or 56 grams	
Waffle at least 34 grams*	1/2 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.

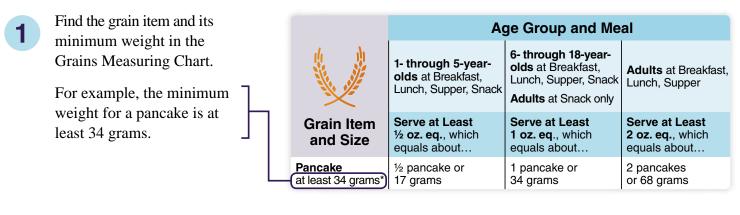
\*\*Check that the item you want to serve is about this size or larger. See "Grains Measuring Tools" on page 6 for more information.



4

### **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:



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. Brand P Pancakes Nutrition Facts 4 servings per container Serving size 3 Pancakes (1179) Amount per serving Calories 280 % Daily Value\* Total Fat 9g 12% Saturated Fat 1.5g 8% Trans Fat 0g

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.

117 grams:3 pancakes=39 grams per pancakeServing WeightServing SizeWeight of Each Item

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:

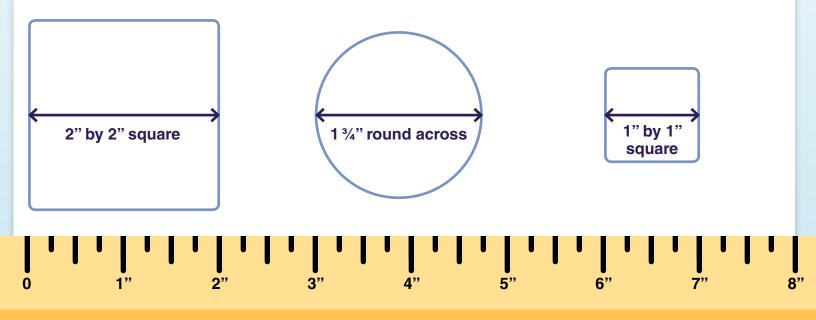
- Enter information from the Nutrition Facts label into the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Program's (FBG) Exhibit A Grains Tool.*\* This tool will let you know how many ounce equivalents of grains are in one serving of the item.
- Use the *FBG Recipe Analysis Workbook (RAW)*\* to determine the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

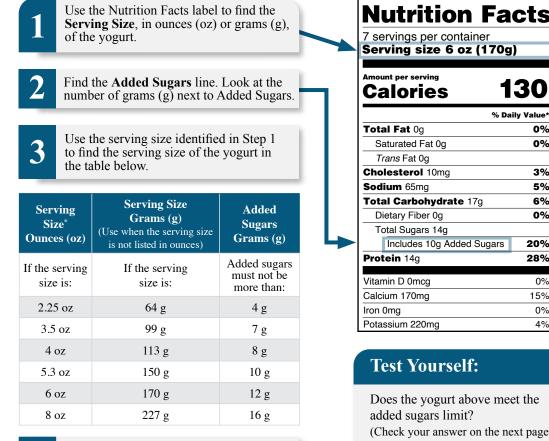
### Guides appear as actual size when this worksheet is printed at 100% on standard 8 1/2" by 11" paper.



## **Choose Yogurt That is Lower in Added Sugars** in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

All yogurt served in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) must contain no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces (2 grams of added sugars per ounce).

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





In the table, look at the number to the right of the serving size amount, under the "Added Sugars" column. If the yogurt has that amount of added sugars, or less, the yogurt meets the added sugars limit.

130 % Daily Value 0% 0% 3% 5% 6% 0% Includes 10g Added Sugars 20% 28% 0% 15% 0% 4%

Does the yogurt above meet the (Check your answer on the next page) Serving Size:

Added Sugars:

☐ Yes 🗌 No



**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.

\*Serving sizes here refer to those commonly found for store-bought yogurt. Homemade yogurt is not creditable in the CACFP.



More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <u>TeamNutrition.USDA.gov</u>.

# **Try It Out!**

Use the "Added Sugars Limit in Yogurt" table below to help find yogurt you can serve at your site. Write down your favorite brands and other information in the "Yogurt To Serve in the CACFP" list. You can use this as a shopping list when buying yogurt to serve in your program.

## **Added Sugars Limit in Yogurt**

Serving Size Ounces (oz)	Serving Size Grams (g) (Use when the serving size is not listed in ounces)	Added Sugars Grams (g)	Serving Size Ounces (oz)	Serving Size Grams (g) (Use when the serving size is not listed in ounces)	Added Sugars Grams (g)
If the serving size is:	If the serving size is:	Added sugars must not be more than:	If the serving size is:	If the serving size is:	Added sugars must not be more than:
1 oz	28 g	2 g	4.75 oz	135 g	9 g
1.25 oz	35 g	2 g	5 oz	142 g	10 g
1.5 oz	43 g	3 g	5.25 oz	149 g	10 g
1.75 oz	50 g	3 g	5.3 oz	150 g	10 g
2 oz	57 g	4 g	5.5 oz	156 g	11 g
2.25 oz	64 g	4 g	5.75 oz	163 g	11 g
2.5 oz	71 g	5 g	6 oz	170 g	12 g
2.75 oz	78 g	5 g	6.25 oz	177 g	12 g
3 oz	85 g	6 g	6.5 oz	184 g	13 g
3.25 oz	92 g	6 g	6.75 oz	191 g	13 g
3.5 oz	99 g	7 g	7 oz	198 g	14 g
3.75 oz	106 g	7 g	7.25 oz	206 g	14 g
4 oz	113 g	8 g	7.5 oz	213 g	15 g
4.25 oz	120 g	8 g	7.75 oz	220 g	15 g
4.5 oz	128 g	9 g	8 oz	227 g	16 g

## **Yogurt To Serve in the CACFP\***

	Yogurt Brand	Flavor	Serving Size (oz or g)	Added Sugars (g)
	Yummy Yogurt	Vanilla	6 oz	10
-				

\*The amount of added sugars 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 added 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 10 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces (170 grams). The maximum amount of added sugars allowed in 6 ounces of yogurt is 12 grams. 10 is less than 12, so this yogurt meets the added sugars limit.

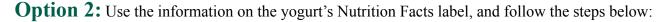
FNS-652 | October 2019, Slightly Revised September 2024 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

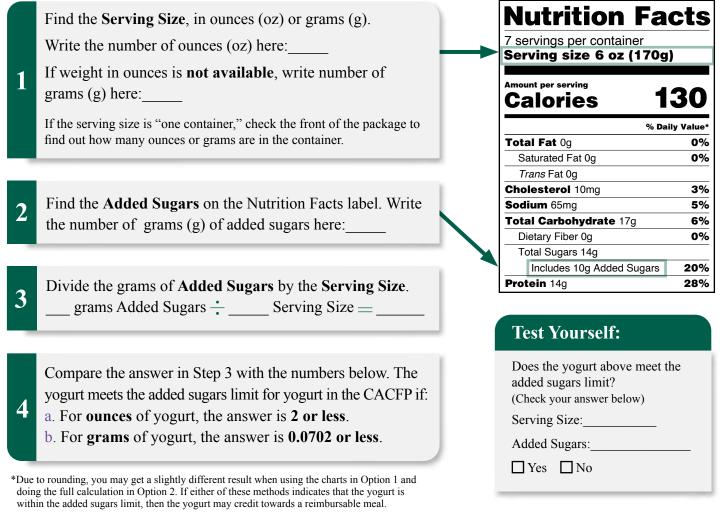
## Calculating the Added Sugars Limit for Yogurt in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

All yogurt served in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) must not have more than **12 grams of added sugars** per 6 ounces (2 grams of added sugars per ounce).

Here are two ways to tell if a yogurt meets the added sugars limit.

**Option 1\*:** Check out USDA's chart that shows common serving sizes of yogurt and the maximum amount of added sugars they can contain. Find the chart in the CACFP training worksheet, "Choose Yogurt That Is Lower in Added Sugars in the Child and Adult Care Food Program" at <u>fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-worksheets-cacfp</u>.





Answer Key: Yes, this yogurt meets the added sugars limit. This yogurt has 10 grams of added sugars per 170g. 10 ÷ 170g = 0.0589, which is less than 0.0702. If dividing by ¾ cup (6 oz) of yogurt, 10 ÷ 6 oz = 1.667, which is less than 2.

More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <u>TeamNutrition.USDA.gov</u>.



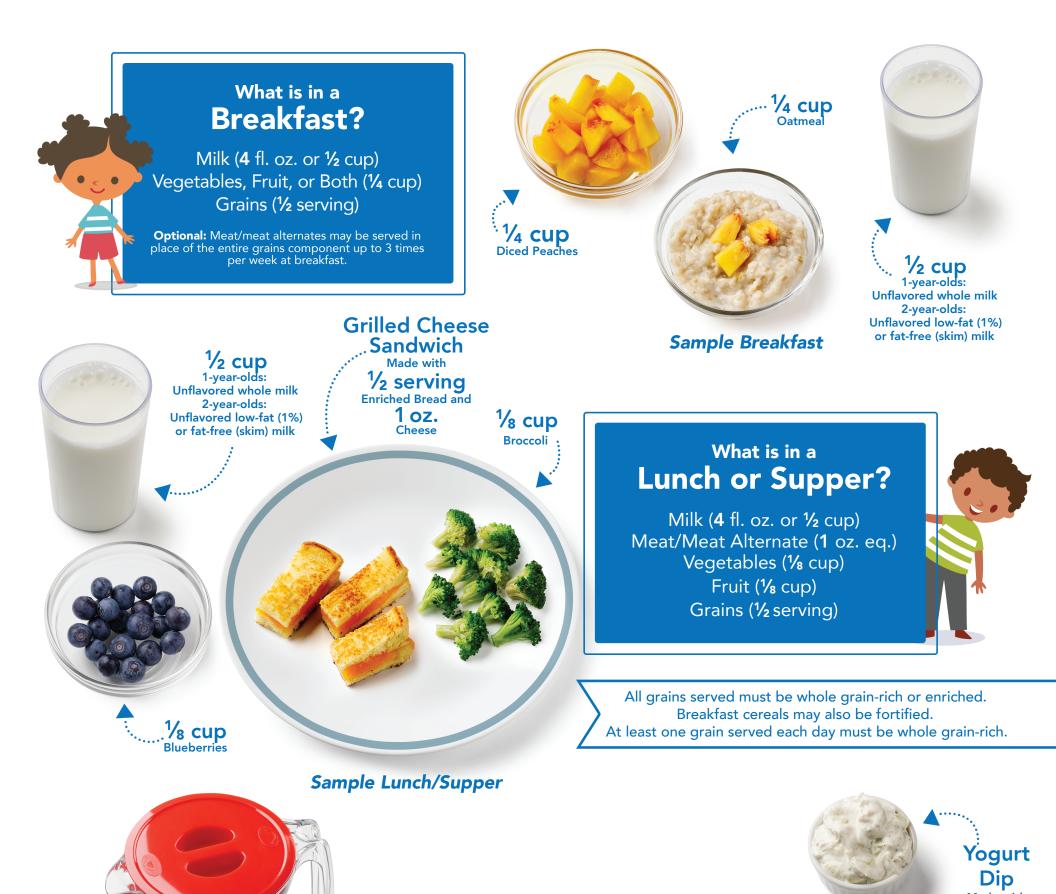
FNS-661 | October 2019 Slightly Revised November 2024 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.





## Serve Tasty and Healthy Foods in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Sample Meals for Children Ages 1-2



Offer and make water available all day.

Snack? Pick 2: Milk (4 fl. oz. or ½ cup) Meat/Meat Alternate (½ oz. eq.) Vegetables (½ cup) Fruit (½ cup) Grains (½ serving)

What is in a



Sample Snack

Note: Serving sizes are minimums.

Updated USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal patterns must be implemented by October 1, 2017. Learn more about the CACFP meal patterns, including information on ounce equivalents (oz. eq.) and serving sizes at https://teamnutrition.usda.gov.

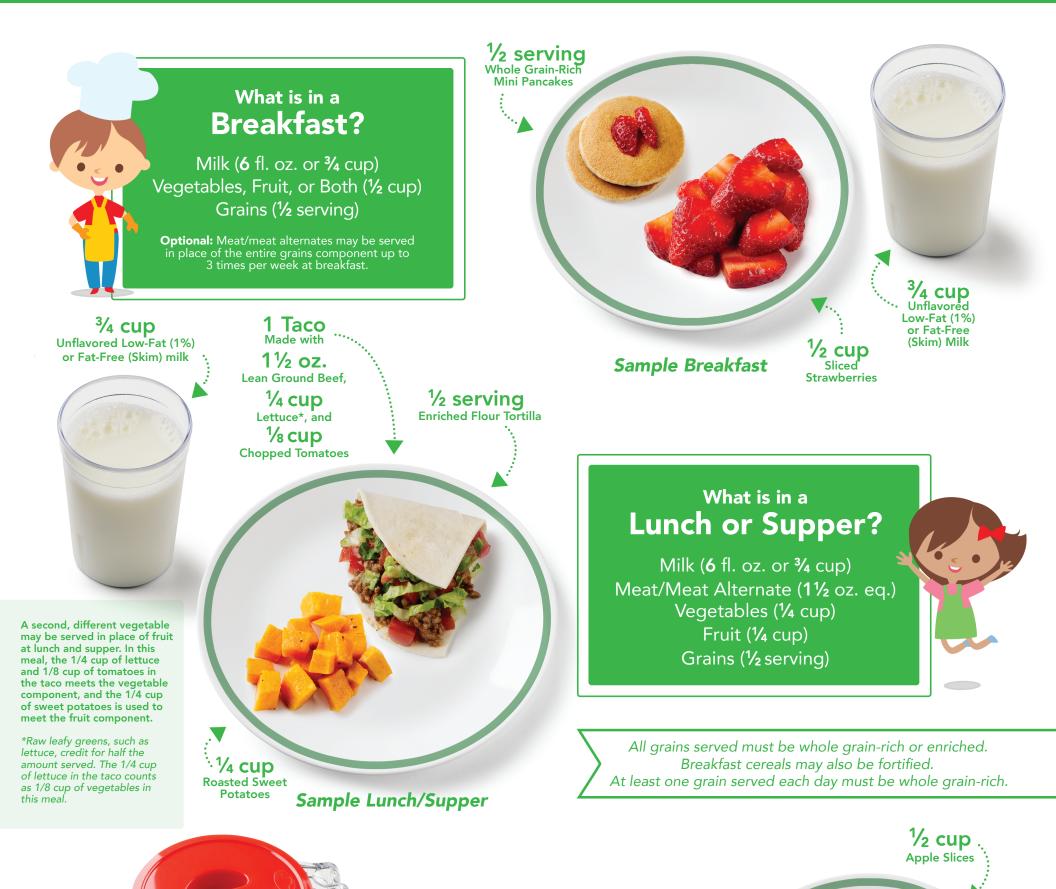


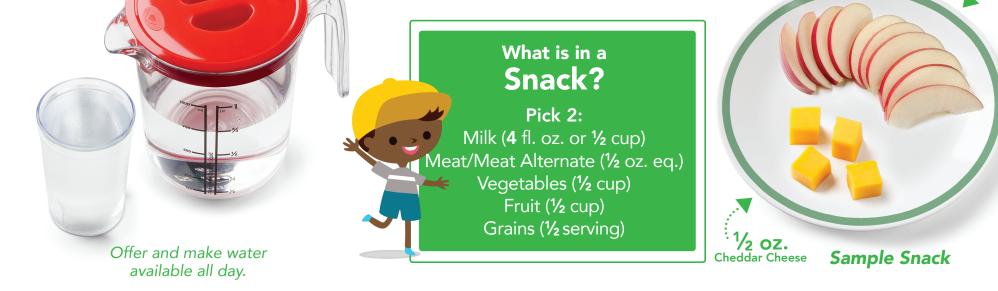
Food and Nutrition Service FNS-667 August 2017 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



## Serve Tasty and Healthy Foods in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Sample Meals for Children Ages 3-5





#### Note: Serving sizes are minimums.

Updated USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal patterns must be implemented by October 1, 2017. Learn more about the CACFP meal patterns, including information on ounce equivalents (oz. eq.) and serving sizes at https://teamnutrition.usda.gov.



Food and Nutrition Service FNS-668 August 2017 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



## Serve Tasty and Healthy Foods in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Sample Meals for Children Ages 6-12 and 13-18



Offer and make water available all day.

# What is in a **Snack?**

Pick 2: Milk (8 fl. oz. or 1 cup) Meat/Meat Alternate (1 oz. eq.) Vegetables (¾ cup) Fruit (¾ cup) Grains (1 serving)

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup Mandarin Oranges

Sample Snack

#### Note: Serving sizes are minimums.

Flavored low-fat (1%) milk is allowed for children ages 6 and older and adults in the CACFP from July 1, 2018, until June 30, 2019, and is subject for updates pending *Final Rule for Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements.* Learn more about the CACFP meal patterns, including information on ounce equivalents (oz. eq.) and serving sizes at https://teamnutrition.usda.gov.



Food and Nutrition Service FNS-669 Slightly Revised June 2018 USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.