



Child and Adult Care Food Program

ADULT MEAL PATTERN



breakfast

(Select all three components for a reimbursable meal)

Food Components and Food Items ¹	Minimum Quantities
Fluid Milk²	8 fluid ounces
Vegetables, fruits, or portions of both³	½ cup
Grains (oz eq)^{4,5,6}	
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread	2 slices
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread product, such as biscuit, roll, or muffin	2 servings
Whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified cooked breakfast cereal ⁷ , cereal grain, and/or pasta	1 cup
Whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified ready-to-eat breakfast cereal (dry, cold) ^{7,8}	
Flakes or rounds	2 cups
Puffed cereal	2 ½ cups
Granola	½ cup

¹ Must serve all three components for a reimbursable meal. Offer versus serve is an option for adult participants.

² Must be unflavored or flavored low-fat (1 percent) or unflavored or flavored fat-free (skim) milk. Six ounces (weight) or ¾ cup (volume) of yogurt may be used to meet the equivalent of 8 ounces of fluid milk once per day when yogurt is not served as a meat alternate in the same meal.

³ Pasteurized full-strength juice may only be used to meet the vegetable or fruit requirement at one meal, including snack, per day.

⁴ At least one serving per day, across all eating occasions, must be whole grain-rich. Grain-based desserts do not count towards meeting the grains requirement.

⁵ Meat and meat alternates may be used to meet the entire grains requirement a maximum of three times a week. One ounce of meat and meat alternates is equal to one ounce equivalent of grains.

⁶ Beginning October 1, 2021, ounce equivalents are used to determine the quantity of creditable grains.

⁷ Breakfast cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce (no more than 21.2 grams sucrose and other sugars per 100 grams of dry cereal).

⁸ Beginning October 1, 2019, the minimum serving size specified in this section for ready-to-eat breakfast cereals must be served. Until October 1, 2019, the minimum serving size for any type of ready-to-eat breakfast cereals is 1 ½ cups for adults.

Lunch and supper

(Select all five components for a reimbursable meal)

Food Components and Food Items ¹	Minimum Quantities
Fluid Milk^{2,3}	8 fluid ounces
Meat/meat alternates	
Lean meat, poultry, or fish	2 ounces
Tofu, soy product, or alternate protein product ⁴	2 ounces
Cheese	2 ounces
Large egg	1
Cooked dry beans or peas	½ cup
Peanut butter or soy nut butter or another nut or seed butter	4 tbsp
Yogurt, plain or flavored, sweetened or unsweetened ⁵	8 ounces or 1 cup
The following may be used to meet no more than 50% of the requirement: Peanuts, soy nuts, tree nuts, or seeds, as listed in program guidance, or an equivalent quantity of any combination of the above meat/meat alternates (1 ounces of nuts/seeds = 1 ounce of cooked lean meat, poultry, or fish)	1 ounce = 50%
Vegetables⁶	½ cup
Fruits^{6,7}	½ cup
Grains (oz eq)^{8,9}	
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread	2 slices
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread product, such as biscuit, roll, or muffin	2 servings
Whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified cooked breakfast cereal ¹⁰ , cereal grain, and/or pasta	1 cup

¹ Must serve all five components for a reimbursable meal. Offer versus serve is an option for adult participants.

² Must be unflavored or flavored low-fat (1 percent) or unflavored or flavored fat-free (skim) milk. Six ounces (weight) or ¾ cup (volume) of yogurt may be used to meet the equivalent of 8 ounces of fluid milk once per day when yogurt is not served as a meat alternate in the same meal.

³ A serving of fluid milk is optional for suppers served to adult participants.

⁴ Alternate protein products must meet the requirements in Appendix A to Part 226.

⁵ Yogurt must contain no more than 23 grams of total sugars per 6 ounces.

⁶ Pasteurized full-strength juice may only be used to meet the vegetable or fruit requirement at one meal, including snack, per day.

⁷ A vegetable may be used to meet the entire fruit requirement. When two vegetables are served at lunch or supper, two different kinds of vegetables must be served.

⁸ At least one serving per day, across all eating occasions, must be whole grain-rich. Grain-based desserts do not count towards the grains requirement.

⁹ Beginning October 1, 2021, ounce equivalents are used to determine the quantity of the creditable grain.

¹⁰ Breakfast cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce (no more than 21.2 grams sucrose and other sugars per 100 grams of dry cereal).

snack

(Select all three components for a reimbursable meal)

Food Components and Food Items ¹	Minimum Quantities
Fluid Milk²	8 fluid ounces
Meat/meat alternates	
Lean meat, poultry, or fish	1 ounce
Tofu, soy product, or alternate protein product ³	1 ounce
Cheese	1 ounce
Large egg	½
Cooked dry beans or peas	¼ cup
Peanut butter or soy nut butter or another nut or seed butter	2 tbsp
Yogurt, plain or flavored, sweetened or unsweetened ⁴	4 ounces or ½ cup
Peanuts, soy nuts, tree nuts, or seeds	1 ounce
Vegetables⁵	½ cup
Fruits⁵	½ cup
Grains (oz eq)^{6,7}	
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread	1 slice
Whole grain-rich or enriched bread product, such as biscuit, roll, or muffin	1 serving
Whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified cooked breakfast cereal ⁸ , cereal grain, and/or pasta	½ cup
Whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified ready-to-eat breakfast cereal (dry, cold) ^{8,9}	
Flakes or rounds	1 cup
Puffed cereal	1 ¼ cup
Granola	¼ cup

¹ Select two of the five components for a reimbursable snack. Only one of the two components may be a beverage.

² Must be unflavored or flavored low-fat (1 percent) or unflavored or flavored fat-free (skim) milk. Six ounces (weight) or ¾ cup (volume) of yogurt may be used to meet the equivalent of 8 ounces of fluid milk once per day when yogurt is not served as a meat alternate in the same meal.

³ Alternate protein products must meet the requirements in Appendix A to Part 226.

⁴ Yogurt must contain no more than 23 grams of total sugars per 6 ounces.

⁵ Pasteurized full-strength juice may only be used to meet the vegetable or fruit requirement at one meal, including snack, per day.

⁶ At least one serving per day, across all eating occasions, must be whole grain-rich. Grain-based desserts do not count towards meeting the grains requirement.

⁷ Beginning October 1, 2021, ounce equivalents are used to determine the quantity of creditable grains.

⁸ Breakfast cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce (no more than 21.2 grams sucrose and other sugars per 100 grams of dry cereal).

⁹ Beginning October 1, 2019, the minimum serving sizes specified in this section for ready-to-eat breakfast cereals must be served. Until October 1, 2019, the minimum serving size for any type of ready-to-eat breakfast cereals is 1 ½ cups for adults.

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This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service through an agreement with the Institute of Child Nutrition at the University of Mississippi. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. government.

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10/09/2019