

Thank you for joining us today!

Today's webinar will begin at **2 PM ET**.

Streaming audio will be available through your computer when the presentation begins.

- *Please make sure your speakers are turned up!*

If you are unable to stream audio through your computer, you can call in to listen to audio via your phone using any of the following numbers:

- +1-669-254-5252 or +1-669-216-1590 or +1-646-828-7666 or +1-551-285-1373
- Webinar ID: 161 078 9379; Passcode: 651635

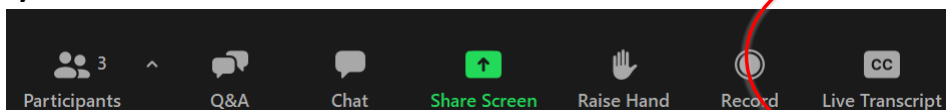


United States Department of Agriculture

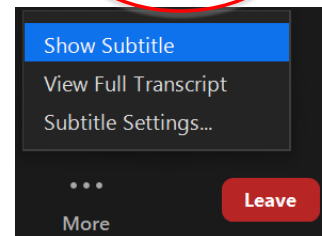
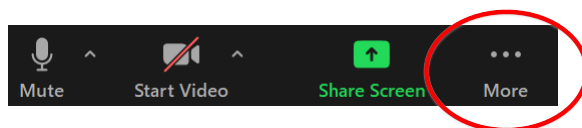
1

Closed Captioning is Available

The Live Transcript icon is located at the bottom of your screen.



If this icon is not available, click More then Show Subtitle.



United States Department of Agriculture

2

Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium

Effective July 1, 2022

Tim Vázquez
Lead Program Analyst

Shawnee Sweeney
Program Analyst

Debbie Nigri
Nutritionist

Sheldon E. Gordon MS, RDN
Chief, Nutrition and Technical Assistance Branch



3

Today's Agenda



Final Rule for Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium

- Background
- Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium
- Resources and Trainings to Support Meal Pattern Implementation
- Next Steps
- Questions

4

Submit **questions** using the
Q&A icon

Located in the tool bar at
the bottom of your screen

Q&A

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

5

Background: What is Impacted by this Transitional Rule?

Impacted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Types of milk allowed• Amount of whole grain-rich grains required• Sodium levels
Not Impacted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amount of food required in any component• Fruits, Vegetables, Meat/Meat Alternate components• Calorie Ranges, Saturated Fat Limits, Age/Grade Groups

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

6

Background: Milk, Whole Grains, Sodium

December 2018: Final Rule changed standards for milk, whole grains and sodium

April 2020: 2018 final rule was vacated; therefore 2012 meal standards are in effect

Through June 2022: Due to COVID, Congress provided USDA authority to issue nationwide meal pattern waivers

7

Two Step Approach

Step 1

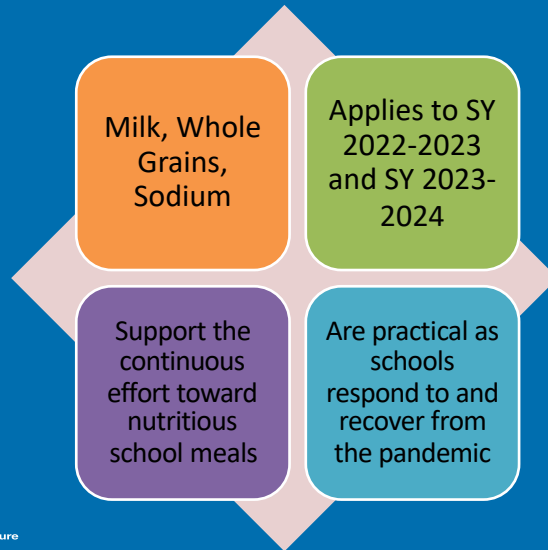
Final Rule for Transitional Standards (short-term)

Step 2

New Rulemaking for Permanent Standards (long-term)

8

Step 1: Final Rule for Transitional Standards (short-term)

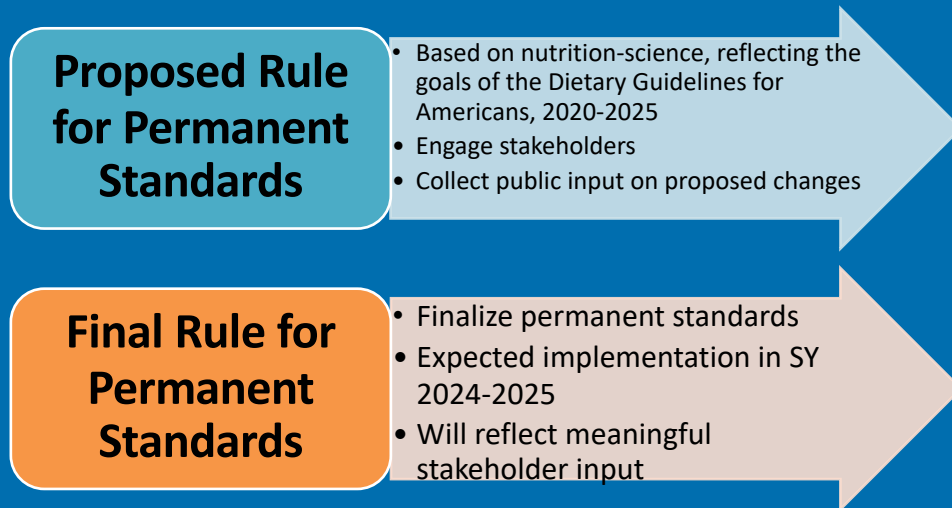


United States Department of Agriculture



9

Step 2: New Rulemaking for Permanent Standards (long-term)



United States Department of Agriculture



10



Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains and Sodium

Effective July 1, 2022

.....

11

Milk Standards

.....

- Option to serve flavored, low-fat (1 percent or less) milk in NSLP and SBP
 - Flavored non-fat (skim) milk is also still an option
- Requires unflavored milk to be offered at each NSLP/SBP meal service
- Flavored low-fat milk option is extended to:
 - Smart Snacks in Schools (SSIS)
 - Special Milk Program (SMP) ages 6 and up
 - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) ages 6 and up

12

Milk Standards

Technical Correction

- To be consistent with the school meal program regulations, lactose-free and reduced-lactose milk meet requirements for fluid milk in SMP and CACFP.
- No written or medical statement is required.

13

Whole Grain Standards

- At least 80 percent of grains offered must be whole grain-rich*
- The remaining grains must be enriched
- Provides flexibility for program operators to offer enriched grains when whole grain-rich items are unavailable or when the whole grain-rich item is not acceptable by students

*To meet USDA's whole grain-rich criteria, a product must contain at least 50 percent whole grains, and the remaining grain content of the product must be enriched.

14

Menu Planning Options for the Whole Grain-Rich Requirement

Option: Plan menu so enriched grains are served only on one day

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WGR 2 oz. eq.	WGR 2 oz. eq.	WGR 2 oz. eq.	WGR 2 oz. eq.	Enriched 2 oz. eq.

$$\frac{8 \text{ oz. eq. WGR}}{10 \text{ oz. eq. Total Grains}} = 80\%$$



United States Department of Agriculture



15

Menu Planning Options for the Whole Grain-Rich Requirement

Option: Incorporate small amounts of enriched grains throughout the week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WGR 1 oz. eq. + Enriched 0.5 oz. eq.	WGR 1 oz. eq. + Enriched 0.5 oz. eq.	WGR 2 oz. eq.	WGR 1 oz. eq. + Enriched 0.5 oz. eq.	WGR 2 oz. eq.

$$\frac{7.0 \text{ oz. eq. WGR}}{8.5 \text{ oz. eq. Total Grains}} = 82\%$$



United States Department of Agriculture



16

Menu Planning Options for the Whole Grain-Rich Requirement (This example is one serving line with three options)

Day	Meal 1	Meal 2	Meal 3	Daily Min	Daily Max	Total*	WGR Total
Mon	Turkey Mac (1 oz eq)	Tuna Noodles (1 oz eq)	Burrito (2 oz, WGR)	2	2	6	3
	Pumpkin Tart (1 oz eq, GBD)	Crackers (1 oz eq, WGR)					
Tues	Rice pilaf (2 oz eq, WGR)	Sandwich (2 oz eq, WGR)	Sandwich (2 oz eq, WGR)	2	2	6	6
Wed	Spaghetti (2 oz eq)	Hamburger (2 oz eq, WGR)	Sandwich (2 oz eq, WGR)	2	3	7	5
	Bread (1 oz eq, WGR)						
Thurs	Rice (1 oz eq, WGR)	Chili (0.25 oz eq)	Sandwich (2 oz eq, WGR)	2	2.5	6.75	6.5
	Cookie (1 oz eq, WGR & GBD)	Corn bread (1 oz eq, WGR)					
		Pizza (2 oz eq, WGR)	Pizza (2 oz eq, WGR)				
Weekly Total						31.75	26.5
Weekly Range				10	11.5		
Total Grains* (oz eq)		31.75	Total WGR (oz eq)	26.5	Percent WGR		83%



United States Department of Agriculture



17

Sodium Standards

NSLP

- Maintain Target 1 for SY 2022-2023
 - ✓ Effective July 1, 2022
- Implement Interim Target 1A for SY 2023-2024
 - ✓ Effective July 1, 2023

SBP

- Maintain Target 1 for SY 2022-2023 and SY 2023-2024
 - ✓ Effective July 1, 2022



United States Department of Agriculture



18

Sodium Standards: National School Lunch Program

National School Lunch Program Transitional Sodium Timeline & Limits		
Age/Grade Group	Target 1: Effective July 1, 2022	Interim Target 1A: Effective July 1, 2023
K-5	≤ 1,230 mg	≤ 1,110 mg
6-8	≤ 1,360 mg	≤ 1,225 mg
9-12	≤ 1,420 mg	≤ 1,280 mg

Sodium Standards: School Breakfast Program

School Breakfast Program Transitional Sodium Timeline & Limits	
Age/Grade Group	Target 1: Effective July 1, 2022
K-5	≤ 540 mg
6-8	≤ 600 mg
9-12	≤ 640 mg

Summary of Transitional Standards

Milk

- Option to serve flavored, low-fat milk in NSLP and SBP
- Extended to SSIS, CACFP (ages 6+), SMP (ages 6+)

Whole Grains

- 80% of grains offered weekly must be whole grain-rich; remaining grains must be enriched

Sodium

- NSLP: Target 1 for SY 2022-2023; Target 1A for SY 2023-2024
- SBP: Target 1 for SY 2022-2023 and SY 2023-2024

21

Invitation to Comment

USDA is inviting comments on:

- Milk
- Whole Grain-Rich
- Sodium
- Other meal pattern changes that may be needed



Comments must be submitted by March 24, 2022

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/FNS-2020-0038-2936>



22

Resources and Technical Assistance

- Nutrition Standards for School Meals can be found at:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/nutrition-standards-school-meals>
- Updated Meal Pattern Questions & Answers: Coming Soon!



Top 5 Team Nutrition Resources for Industry Partners

Sheldon E. Gordon MS, RDN
Chief, Nutrition and Technical Assistance Branch

Nutrition, Education, Training and Technical Assistance Division, USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)



5

Food Buying Guide Digital Resources

Easy search & navigation

Compare

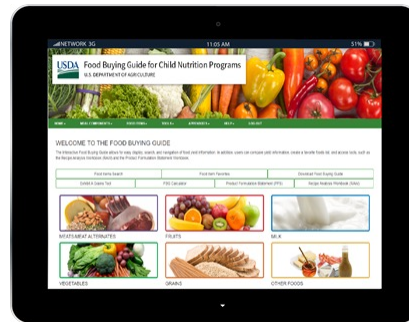
Favorite list

Select serving size (fruits & vegetables)



Food Buying Guide Features

- Recipe Analysis Workbook
- Food Buying Guide Calculator
- Exhibit A Grains Tool
- Product Formulation Statement Workbook



Product Formulation Statement Workbook

Easily calculate a product's contribution statement and generate crediting documentation



Product Name: Wheat Smile Pancakes **Product Code:** 14005
Serving Size: 2 pancakes - 50 g (1.75 oz.) **Date:** 2/20/2020

4

Grains Based on Grams of Creditable Grains

Does this product meet the Whole Grain-Rich Criteria:
 Does this product contain non-creditable grains:

Description of Creditable Grain Ingredient	Exhibit A Group (A-I) the Product Belongs To	Grams of Creditable Grain Ingredient per Portion (A)	Gram Standard of Creditable Grain per oz Equivalent (B)	Creditable Amount (A / B)
Pancakes	Group C	50.00 g	34.00 g	1.4705 oz. eq.
Total Grains Based on Grams of Creditable Grains Creditable Amount:				1.25 oz. eq.

Meal Pattern Contribution Statement

I certify that the above information is true and correct and that a **2 pancakes - 50 g (1.75 oz.)** ounce serving of the above product (ready for serving) provides **1.25** oz equivalent Grains when prepared according to directions.

I further certify that non-creditable grains are not above 0.24 oz eq. per portion. Products with more than 0.24 oz equivalent or 3.99 grams for Groups A-G or 6.99 grams for Group H of non-creditable grains may not credit towards the grain requirements for school meals.

Signature Title

Printed Name Phone Number

Product Formulation Statement (PFS) Samples

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs
(Crediting Standards Based on Exhibit A Weights per Ounce Equivalent)

Program operators should include a copy of the label from the purchased product package in addition to the following information on letterhead signed by an official company representative. Program operators have the option to choose the crediting method that fits their specific menu planning needs.

Product Name: Wheat Smile Pancakes Code No.: 14005
 Manufacturer: ABC Bread Company Serving Size: 2 pancakes - 50g (1.75 oz.)

I. Does the product meet the whole grain-rich criteria? Yes No

II. Does the product contain non-creditable grains? Yes No How many grams? _____
(Products with more than 0.24 ounce equivalent (oz eq) or 3.99 grams (g) for Groups A-G and 6.99g for Groups H and I of non-creditable grains do not credit toward the grains requirement.)

III. Use Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs in the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) to determine if the product fits into Groups A-G (baked goods), Group H (cereal grains) or Group I (RTE breakfast cereals). (Different methodologies are applied to calculate the grains contribution based on creditable grains. Groups A-G use the standard of 16g creditable grains per oz eq. Groups H and I use the standard of 28g creditable grains per oz eq or volume.)

Indicate which Exhibit A Group (A-I) the product belongs: C

DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT PER EXHIBIT A	PORTION SIZE OF PRODUCT AS PURCHASED	WEIGHT OF ONE OZ EQ AS LISTED IN EXHIBIT A	CREDITABLE AMOUNT
	A		A ÷ B
Pancakes	50 grams	34 grams	1.47
Total Creditable Amount¹			1.25

¹ Total Creditable Amount must be rounded down to the nearest quarter (0.25) oz eq. Do not round up.



fns.usda.gov/cn/labeling/food-manufacturersindustry



USDA's Product Formulation Statement (PFS) Tip Sheet

Checklist for Evaluating a Manufacturer's PFS

(If "N" is checked for any question below, contact the manufacturer to request the information)

 Y N

Is the PFS on signed company letterhead? The signature on the PFS can be handwritten, stamped, or electronic.

 Y N

Does the PFS include product name, product code number, and serving/portion size?

 Y N

Do the creditable ingredients* listed on the PFS match or have a similar description as the ingredients listed on the product label? For example, if the PFS lists "ground beef (not more than 20% fat)," the product label should also list "ground beef (not more than 20% fat)."

 Y N

Do the creditable ingredients* listed on the PFS match or have a similar description to a food item listed in the *Food Buying Guide (FBG) for Child Nutrition Programs* (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>)?

 Y N

If the product is a meat/meat alternate, does it contain an Alternate Protein Product (APP), such as soy concentrate? If yes, does the manufacturer provide supporting documentation that meets USDA's APP requirements? Specific requirements for APP products and examples of supporting documentation are available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnlabeling/food-manufacturersindustry>.



fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/manufacturerPFStipsheet.pdf

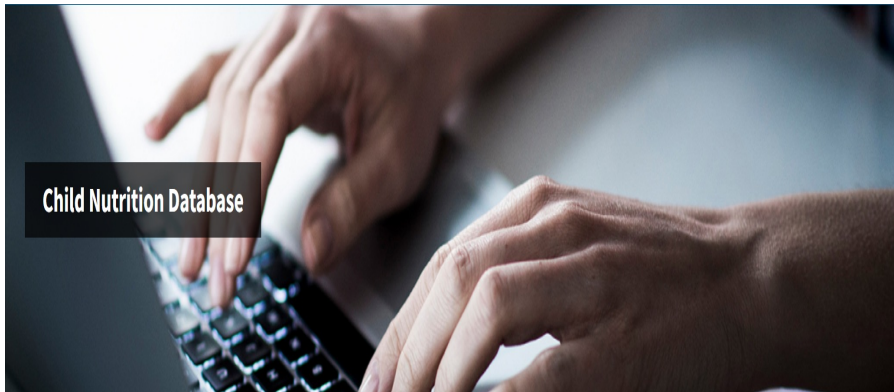


United States Department of Agriculture

29

3

Access the CN Database (CN24)



<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/child-nutrition-database>



United States Department of Agriculture

30

CN Database Nutrients



- ❖ protein
 - ❖ total fat
 - ❖ carbohydrate
 - ❖ ash
 - ❖ food energy
 - ❖ moisture
 - ❖ total sugars
 - ❖ Added sugars*
 - ❖ total dietary fiber
 - ❖ Calcium
 - ❖ iron
 - ❖ potassium
 - ❖ sodium
 - ❖ vitamin A
 - ❖ vitamin D
 - ❖ vitamin C
 - ❖ cholesterol
 - ❖ total trans (fat)
 - ❖ saturated fat
- *Not required



2

Nutrition Technical Assistance Branch (NTAB) PartnerWeb

What is PartnerWeb?

- SharePoint site to better communicate with FNS stakeholders and partners

What's on the NTAB PartnerWeb Site?

- New and updated policy memos and guidance
- Upcoming conferences, training, and webinars
- Latest in Team Nutrition resources
- Separate site information for:
 - Software developers of USDA-approved software



Get access by contacting cnntab@usda.gov with the following information:

- Name, Email, Business Address, and Phone Number



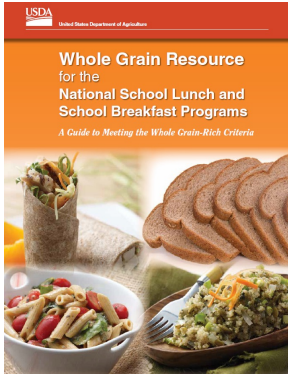
partnerweb.usda.gov/sites/CNP/NTAB/default.aspx



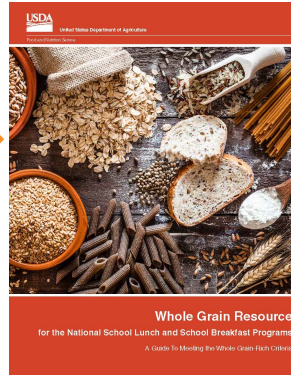
1 Whole Grains Resource for the NSLP/SBP



2014 Publication



Expected Spring 2022!



Updated
to reflect the new
requirements of the
Transitional Rule

 <https://TeamNutrition.usda.gov>



33

Contact NTAB

Nutrition and Technical Assistance Branch Mailbox



CONTACT US

cnpntab@usda.gov

34

Next Steps

.....



United States Department of Agriculture

35

Summary: What are the next steps?

.....

Final Rule
Comment
Period through
March 24

Stakeholder
Engagement

Proposed Rule:
Fall 2022



United States Department of Agriculture

36

Nutrition security is a key priority for USDA.



Questions?

