



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

DATE: February 22, 2019

SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Announcement of Significant Revisions to the Food Package Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates, Effective November 1, 2019

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
MARO, MPRO, MWRO,
NERO, SERO, SWRO, and
WRO

State Directors
All CSFP State Agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs)

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is making significant revisions to the CSFP food package which State agencies are expected to implement on November 1, 2019. FNS is releasing the updated Distribution Rates at this time to allow CSFP State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) sufficient time to consult with local agencies and plan their ordering accordingly to ensure smooth implementation of the enhanced food package. For any food packages issued prior to November 1, 2019, the current CSFP Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates (Distribution Rates) issued on October 2, 2018 (Attachments A.1, A.2, and A.3) remain in effect. CSFP States and local agencies should continue to reference the Distribution Rates in conjunction with FNS Instruction 835-1, Revision 2 for all food packages issued prior to November 1, 2019.

The revised Distribution Rates (Attachment B) are the culmination of a year-long process of working with various CSFP stakeholders to update the food package to reflect an almost all-senior population. In 2017, USDA convened a workgroup of CSFP States and local agencies and FNS National and Regional Office staff to recommend changes to FNS senior leadership on the types and quantities of foods offered in the food package, as well as changes that would streamline local program administration. The enhanced food package now better aligns with MyPlate and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and includes new nutritious food options. FNS is also phasing out the larger package sizes of certain products, including instant nonfat dry milk, dry beans, oats, grits, and rice to increase local flexibility and variety in the food package, provide more appropriate package sizes for small households, and eliminate the requirement to distribute certain products on a bimonthly basis.

Before implementation of the enhanced food package in November and effective immediately, States and local agencies should begin to adjust their ordering and work to distribute any remaining products with larger package sizes. However, we recognize that some of these products may still be left in inventory in and after

November. State agencies should therefore instruct local agencies to first distribute all remaining inventory of these products prior to distributing the newer, smaller package sizes to clients. With the exception of nonfat dry milk, which is now available for delivery in 12.8 ounce packages and should be distributed monthly, any new products received prior to November 1, 2019 should not be distributed until food package issuance in November. FNS will provide additional ordering guidance regarding the new products at a later date.

Consistent with current FNS policy, some foods in the food package may be unavailable due to changing agricultural market conditions. This may impact the choices listed within the Food Package Categories.

FNS will be implementing a communications initiative over the coming months that will provide a detailed overview of the food package changes and what States/ITOs and local agencies should do to prepare. In the meantime, State agency and ITO staff who have questions may contact their respective Regional Offices, who may in turn contact the National Office at (703) 305-2680.

/s/ Original Signature on File

Laura Castro

Director

Food Distribution Division

Attachments

October 2018
COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION RATES

Children

Food Package Category	Food Item	Package Size	Packages/Month	Amount/Month
Cereals	Cereal, Dry Ready-to-Eat ^{1/}	12-18 oz pkg	2 pkgs	24-36 oz
	or Farina ^{1/}	18 oz pkg	2 pkgs	36 oz
	or Rolled Oats	42-48 oz pkg	1 pkg	42-48 oz
	or Grits ^{2/}	5 lb pkg	1 pkg every other month	40 oz
Juices	Juice	64 oz container	3 containers	192 oz
Proteins	Beef	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Beef Stew	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Chili	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Chicken ^{3/}	10-15 oz can or pouch	2 cans or pouches	20-30 oz
	or Tuna ^{3/}	12 oz can	2 cans	24 oz
	or Salmon ^{3/}	14.75 oz can	2 cans	29.5 oz
Milk ^{4/}	UHT Fluid Milk 1% and Instant Nonfat Dry Milk ^{5/}	32 oz pkg	4 pkgs and 1 pkg or 1 pkg every other month	128 oz 12.8 oz (128 oz reconstituted)
		12.8 oz pkg		
		25.6 oz pkg		
Peanut Butter / Dry Beans	Peanut Butter	18 oz pkg	1 pkg	18 oz
	or Dry Beans/Peas	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
Potatoes / Grains	Dehydrated Potatoes	1 lb pkg	1 pkg	16 oz
	or Pasta	1 lb pkg	2 pkgs	32 oz
	or Rice	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
	or Grits ^{2/}	5 lb pkg	1 pkg every other month	40 oz
Cheese	Cheese	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
Fruits	Fruits	15-16 oz can	2 cans	30-32 oz
Vegetables	Vegetables	15-16 oz can	4 cans	60-64 oz

Children

- 1/ A combination of 1 package of dry ready-to-eat cereal and 1 package of farina may be provided.
- 2/ The distribution rate for grits is 5 pounds every other month in either the Cereals or Potatoes/Grains Food Package Category.
- 3/ Participants can select two items per month from the following food items: chicken, tuna, and salmon. For example, participants can select two cans of salmon or one can of salmon and one can of chicken, etc.
- 4/ If parents or caretakers of children 12 to 23 months old choose to continue receiving CSFP benefits for children within this age range, they must be notified that the lower fat UHT milk and NDM provided in the CSFP food package should not be the sole source of milk for consumption by their children.
- 5/ Local agencies should first distribute all remaining inventory of 25.6 oz packages of instant nonfat dry milk on a bimonthly schedule prior to distributing the smaller, 12.8 oz pack size on a monthly basis.

**October 2018
COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION RATES**

Elderly

Food Package Category	Food Item	Package Size	Packages/Month	Amount/Month
Cereals	Cereal, Dry Ready-to-Eat ^{1/}	12-18 oz pkg	2 pkgs	24-36 oz
	or Farina ^{1/}	18 oz pkg	2 pkgs	36 oz
	or Rolled Oats	42-48 oz pkg	1 pkg	42-48 oz
	or Grits ^{2/}	5 lb pkg	1 pkg every other month	40 oz
Juices	Juice	64 oz container	2 containers	128 oz
Proteins	Beef	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Beef Stew	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Chili	24 oz can	1 can	24 oz
	or Chicken ^{3/}	10-15 oz can or pouch	2 cans or pouch	20-30 oz
	or Tuna ^{3/}	12 oz can	2 cans	24 oz
	or Salmon ^{3/}	14.75 oz can	2 cans	29.5 oz
Milk	UHT Fluid Milk 1% and Instant Nonfat Dry Milk ^{4/}	32 oz pkg	2 pkgs and 1 pkg or 1 pkg every other month	64 oz 12.8 oz (128 oz reconstituted)
		12.8 oz pkg		
		25.6 oz pkg		
Peanut Butter/ Dry Beans	Peanut Butter	18 oz pkg	1 pkg	18 oz
	or Dry Beans/Peas	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
Potatoes/ Grains	Dehydrated Potatoes	1 lb pkg	1 pkg	16 oz
	or Pasta	1 lb pkg	2 pkgs	32 oz
	or Rice	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
	or Grits ^{2/}	5 lb pkg	1 pkg every other month	40 oz
Cheese	Cheese	2 lb pkg	1 pkg	32 oz
Fruits	Fruits	15-16 oz can	2 cans	30-32 oz
Vegetables	Vegetables	15-16 oz can	4 cans	60-64 oz

Elderly

- 1/ A combination of 1 package of dry ready-to-eat cereal and 1 package of farina may be provided.
- 2/ The distribution rate for grits is 5 pounds every other month in either the Cereals or Potatoes/Grains Food Package Category.
- 3/ Participants can select two items per month from the following food items: chicken, tuna, and salmon. For example, participants can select two cans of salmon or one can of salmon and one can of chicken, etc.
- 4/ Local agencies should first distribute all remaining inventory of 25.6 oz packages of instant nonfat dry milk on a bimonthly schedule prior to distributing the smaller, 12.8 oz pack size on a monthly basis.

ATTACHMENT A.3

October 2018
COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION RATES – SUMMARY TABLE¹

Food Package Category	Food Item	Size	Cans or Packages per Month	
			Children	Elderly
Cereals	Cereal, Ready-to-Eat or	12-18 oz	2 or	2 or
	Farina or	18 oz	2 or	2 or
	Rolled Oats or	42-48 oz	1 or	1 or
	Grits	5 lb	1 every other month	1 every other month
Juice	Juice, Plastic Container	64 oz	3	2
Proteins	Beef or	24 oz	1 or	1 or
	Beef Stew or	24 oz	1 or	1 or
	Chili or	24 oz	1 or	1 or
	Chicken or	10-15 oz	2 or	2 or
	Tuna or	12 oz	2 or	2 or
	Salmon or	14.75 oz	2 or	2 or
Milk	UHT Fluid Milk 1% and Inst. Nonfat Dry Milk ²	32 oz	4 every mo. and	2 every mo. and
		12.8 oz	1 every mo. or	1 every mo. or
		25.6 oz	1 every other month	1 every other month
Peanut Butter/ Dry Beans	Peanut Butter or Dry Beans/Peas	18 oz	1 or	1 or
		2 lb	1	1
Potatoes/ Grains	Dehydrated Potatoes or	1 lb	1 or	1 or
	Pasta or	1 lb	2 or	2 or
	Rice or	2 lb	1 or	1 or
	Grits	5 lb	1 every other month	1 every other month
Cheese	Cheese	2 lb	1	1
Fruits	Fruits	15-16 oz	2	2
Vegetables	Vegetables	15-16 oz	4	4

¹See Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates by participant category for complete description of appropriate substitutions and/or combinations.

²Local agencies should first distribute all remaining inventory of 25.6 oz packages of instant nonfat dry milk on a bimonthly schedule prior to distributing the smaller, 12.8 oz pack size on a monthly basis.

**COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION RATES**

Effective November 1, 2019

Food Package Category	Food Item	Amount Each Month
Fruits and Juice ¹	Canned Fruit (15.5 oz) Juice (64 oz) Raisins (15 oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 juice and 3 cans fruit; or • 2 juices and 2 cans fruit; or • 1 package raisins, 1 juice, and 2 cans fruit; or • 1 package raisins, 2 juices and 1 can fruit.
Vegetables	Canned Vegetables or Soup (10.5 to 15.5 oz) Dehydrated Potatoes (1 lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 cans vegetables or soup; or • 6 cans vegetables or soup, and 1 package dehydrated potatoes.
Cheese	Cheese (2 lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 package cheese.
Milk ²	UHT Fluid Milk 1% (32 oz) Instant Nonfat Dry Milk (12.8 to 25.6* oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 UHT milk; or • 1 UHT milk and 1 (12.8 oz) Nonfat Dry Milk; or • 1 UHT milk (every month) and 1 (25.6* oz) Nonfat Dry Milk (every other month).
Meat, Poultry, and Fish	Beef, Beef Stew, or Chili (24 oz) Chicken (10 to 15 oz) Tuna (12 oz) Salmon (14.75 oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 (24 oz) shelf-stable package meat and 1 (10 to 15 oz) shelf-stable package poultry or fish; or • 3 (10 to 15 oz) shelf-stable packages poultry and/or fish of any combination.
Plant-Based Protein	Canned Beans (15.5 oz) Dry Beans or Lentils (1 to 2* lb) Peanut Butter (16 to 18* oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 units of any combination of canned beans, (1 lb) dry beans or lentils, and peanut butter; or • 1 (2* lb) unit dry beans or lentils, and 1 unit of canned beans, peanut butter, or (1 lb) dry beans or lentils.
Cereals	Cereal, Dry Ready-to-Eat, (12 to 18 oz) Farina (18 oz) Rolled Oats (18 to 48* oz) Grits (2 to 5* lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 units of any combination of cereal, farina, (18 oz) rolled oats, and (2 lb) grits; or • 1 (42* to 48* oz) unit rolled oats; or • 1 (5* lb) unit grits (every other month).
Pasta and Rice	Pasta (1 lb) Rice (1 to 2* lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 units of any combination of pasta and (1 lb) rice; or • 1 (2* lb) unit rice.

¹ For children, provide 1 additional unit of juice.

² For children, provide 2 additional units of UHT milk.

* Indicates larger package size which is being phased out of the food package.