

(4-Day) Meal Pattern for National School Lunch Program

Serve Only:

- Must PREPARE all 5 components in required amounts
- At POS: Must SERVE all 5 components in minimum required amount

Offer versus Serve (OVS):

- Must PREPARE all 5 components in required amounts
- At POS: Must TAKE at least 3 components in minimum required amount, one must be fruit or vegetable

Component Specifications: Daily and Weekly Amount Based on the Average for a 4-Day Week

Grades		K-5	6-8	K-8	9-12	Additional Information
Fruit (cups)	Weekly (daily)	2 (½)			4 (1)	Only 100% fruit juice is allowed and no more than half the weekly offering for the fruit component may be 100% juice.
	Serve Only: minimum amount required at POS	½			1	
	OVS: minimum amount to count at POS	½			½	
Total Vegetable (cups)	Weekly (daily)	3 (¾)			4 (1)	Only 100% vegetable juice is allowed and no more than half the weekly offering for the fruit component may be 100% juice.
	Serve Only: minimum amount required at POS	¾			1	
	OVS: minimum amount to count at POS	½			½	
Vegetable Subgroups (cups)		Minimum weekly amounts				
Dark green		½			½	No maximum for any subgroup. <i>*Must offer more than minimum weekly values in order to meet weekly total.</i>
Red/Orange		¾			1 ¼	
Beans/Peas (legumes)		½			½	
Starchy		½			½	Minimum creditable amount to count towards a subgroup is 1/8 cup.
Other		½			¾	
To meet weekly requirement, vegetables from ANY subgroup		¼			½	
Whole Grain-Rich Grains (oz eq)	Weekly (daily) amounts <i>*Not required to meet weekly maximum</i>	6.5-7* (1)	6.5-8* (1)	6.5-7* (1)	8-9.5* (2)	SFAs have the flexibility to provide enriched grains so long as <i>at least</i> 50% of grains offered weekly are whole grain-rich. No more than 2 oz eq grain-based desserts may be offered weekly.
	Serve Only and OVS: Minimum amount to count as a component at POS	1	1	1	2	
Meat/ Meat Alternate (oz eq)	Weekly (daily) amounts <i>*Not required to meet weekly maximum</i>	6.5-8* (1)	7-8* (1)	7-8* (1)	8-9.5* (2)	
	Serve Only and OVS: Minimum amount to count as a component at POS	1	1	1	2	
Fluid milk (cups)	Weekly (daily)	4 (1)				Offer two varieties daily (variety: fat content or flavor). Unflavored milk <i>must</i> be offered.



Dietary Specifications: Weekly Average Requirement for a 4-Day Week

Grades	K-5	6-8	K-8	9-12	Additional Information
Minimum - Maximum calories (kcal)	550-650	600-700	600-650	750-850	
Sodium (mg)	≤ 1230	≤ 1360	≤ 1230	≤ 1420	The current sodium guidelines (Target 1) were implemented SY 2014-15
Sodium Target 2 implement in SY 2024-25	≤ 935	≤ 1035	≤ 935	≤ 1080	
Saturated fat (% of calories)	≤ 10				

Dietary Specifications: Daily Requirement for a 4-Day Week

Grades	K-5	6-8	K-8	9-12	
Trans fat	Nutrition label or manufacturer spec must indicate zero grams of <u>trans</u> fat per serving				

