

# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program

This guidance applies to the meal patterns for grades K-12 in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, and Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP. The SSO follows the NSLP and SBP meal patterns. For information on the meal patterns for grades K-12, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education’s (CSDE) [Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage. For additional guidance on the grains component, refer to the CSDE’s *Menu Planning Guide for School Meals for Grades K-12* and visit the “Grains Component for Grades K-12” section of the CSDE’s [Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations ([21 CFR 170.3\(n\)\(4\)](#)) define breakfast cereals as ready-to-eat (RTE) cereals (such as puffed cereals, round or flaked cereals, and granola) and instant and regular hot cereals (such as oatmeal, cream of wheat, and farina). RTE breakfast cereals can be eaten as sold and are typically fortified with vitamins and minerals.

The NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12 and the ASP meal pattern for grades K-12 require different crediting criteria for breakfast cereals. In addition, the NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12 require different crediting and whole-grain rich (WGR) criteria for RTE and cooked breakfast cereals.



## Requirement for WGR Foods

The WGR requirement does not apply to all meal patterns for grades K-12. WGR foods are required in the NSLP and SBP but are not required in the ASP.

- **NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12:** Effective July 1, 2022, the NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12 require that at least 80 percent of the weekly grains offered at lunch and breakfast must be WGR. Grains that are not WGR must be enriched and cannot exceed 20 percent of the grains offered each week. Bran and germ credit the same as enriched grains.
- **ASP meal pattern for grades K-12:** The ASP meal pattern for grades K-12 does not have a WGR requirement or a limit for enriched grains. As a best practice, the CSDE encourages ASP sponsors to serve WGR grains.

Refer to the CSDE’s [Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Grains Component in the School Nutrition Programs](#) for the different NSLP, SBP, and ASP requirements for the grains component.

# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

## Creditable Breakfast Cereals

To credit in the NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12, breakfast cereals must be WGR, enriched, or fortified and cannot exceed 6.99 grams of noncreditable grains per portion. To credit in the ASP meal pattern for grades K-12, breakfast cereals must contain a creditable grain (whole, enriched, bran, or germ) as the first ingredient or the cereal must be fortified. The crediting requirements for each type of breakfast cereal are summarized below. [Table 2](#) shows some examples of how to credit RTE breakfast cereals for grade K-12.

### WGR breakfast cereals

WGR breakfast cereals credit as the grains component in the meal patterns for all school nutrition programs. There are different WGR criteria for RTE and cooked breakfast cereals in the NSLP and SBP meal patterns.

- **Cooked breakfast cereals** such as oatmeal (including regular and instant) meet the WGR criteria if: 1) the cereal is 100 percent whole grain or contains a blend of whole and enriched grains that is at least 50 percent whole grain; and 2) noncreditable grains do not exceed 6.99 grams per portion ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup cooked or 28 grams dry). Examples of noncreditable grains include oat fiber, corn fiber, wheat starch, corn starch, and modified food starch (including potato, legume, and other vegetable flours).
- **RTE breakfast cereals** meet the WGR criteria if: 1) the first ingredient is a whole grain and the cereal is fortified, or the cereal is 100 percent whole grain; and 2) noncreditable grains do not exceed 6.99 grams per portion. Fortification is not required for 100 whole grain cereals.

Whole grains consist of the entire cereal grain seed or kernel (starchy endosperm, fiber-rich bran, and nutrient-rich germ) after removing the inedible outer husk or hull. A 100 percent whole-grain cereal lists a whole grain as the first ingredient and contains only whole grains. The ingredients statement below shows an example of a whole-grain breakfast cereal.

Ingredients: **Whole-grain rolled oats**, sugar, natural flavors, salt.

This cereal is 100 percent whole grain because a whole grain is the first and only grain ingredient.

For information on identifying whole grains, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Crediting Whole Grains in the NSLP and SBP](#).

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

### Enriched breakfast cereals

Enriched breakfast cereals credit as the grains component in the meal patterns for all school nutrition programs.

- To credit in the NSLP and SBP meal patterns, enriched breakfast cereals cannot exceed 6.99 grams of noncreditable grains per portion.
- The limit for noncreditable grains does not apply to the ASP.

Enriched breakfast cereals contain five vitamins and minerals added in amounts required by the FDA to replace some of the nutrients lost during processing. The enrichment nutrients include thiamin (vitamin B<sub>1</sub>, thiamin mononitrate, or thiamin hydrochloride), riboflavin (vitamin B<sub>2</sub>); niacin (vitamin B<sub>3</sub> or niacinamide), folic acid (folate), and iron (reduced iron, ferrous sulfate, or ferric orthophosphate).

A breakfast cereal is enriched if the food is labeled as “enriched” or an enriched grain is the first ingredient. The ingredients statement below shows an example of an enriched breakfast cereal.

Ingredients: **Puffed rice**, *ferrous sulfate (a source of iron)*, *niacinamide*, citric acid, *thiamin mononitrate*, *riboflavin*, *folic acid*.

This puffed rice breakfast cereal is enriched because the ingredients statement lists the five enrichment nutrients. This breakfast cereal credits in all school nutrition programs and counts toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP.

For information on identifying enriched grains, refer to the CSDE’s resource, [Crediting Enriched Grains in the NSLP and SBP](#).

Enriched breakfast cereals count with other enriched grains toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP. Enriched grains cannot exceed 20 percent of the grains offered at lunch and breakfast (refer to “[WGR Requirement](#)” in this document). The limit for enriched grains does not apply to the ASP.

# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

## Fortified breakfast cereals

Fortified breakfast cereals credit as the grains component in the meal patterns for all school nutrition programs.

- To credit in the NSLP and SBP meal patterns, fortified breakfast cereals cannot exceed 6.99 grams of noncreditable grains per portion. Fortified breakfast cereals that are not WGR count toward the weekly limit for enriched grains (no more than 20 percent) in the NSLP and SBP.
- The limit for noncreditable grains does not apply to the ASP.

Fortified breakfast cereals contain nutrients added by the manufacturer that were not originally present, or that are at higher levels than originally present. Manufacturers may choose which additional nutrients to use for fortification. Fortified breakfast cereals typically contain the five enrichment nutrients plus other vitamins and minerals that do not exist naturally in grains.

Different cereal brands may list different fortification nutrients. The USDA does not specify a minimum number of nutrients or a minimum percentage for the level of fortification for breakfast cereals in Child Nutrition Programs. A fortified breakfast cereal is not required to be enriched.



A breakfast cereal is fortified if the food is labeled as “fortified” or the ingredients statement lists the vitamins and minerals added to the product. These nutrients are typically listed after “Vitamins and Minerals.” The ingredients statements below show some examples of fortified breakfast cereals.

Ingredients: **Milled corn**, sugar, malt flavor, contains 2% or less of salt. **Vitamins and Minerals:** *Iron, vitamin C (sodium ascorbate, ascorbic acid), niacinamide, vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B2 (riboflavin), vitamin B1 (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, folic acid, vitamin D, vitamin B12.*

This breakfast cereal is creditable because it is fortified and does not contain any noncreditable grains. It is not WGR because milled corn is not a whole grain. This breakfast cereal credits in all school nutrition programs and counts toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP.

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

Ingredients: **Whole-grain wheat**, raisins, wheat bran, sugar, brown sugar syrup, contains 2% or less of salt, malt flavor. **Vitamins and Minerals:** *Potassium chloride, niacinamide, reduced iron, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine hydrochloride), zinc oxide, vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin), vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, folic acid, vitamin D, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>.*

This fortified breakfast cereal credits as a WGR food because whole-grain wheat is the first ingredient and it does not contain any noncreditable grains. This breakfast cereal credits in all school nutrition programs.

If the ingredients statement does not list any vitamins and minerals, the breakfast cereal is not fortified. Breakfast cereals that are not fortified must meet two criteria to credit as the grains component in the NSLP and SBP meal patterns:

- they must contain a creditable grain (whole, enriched, bran, or germ) as the first ingredient or the greatest ingredient by weight; and
- noncreditable grains cannot exceed 6.99 grams per portion.

If a creditable grain is not the first ingredient, but the breakfast cereal contains more than one creditable grain, the SFA must obtain a product formulation statement (PFS) from the manufacturer stating the weight of all creditable grains. For more information, refer to “[Crediting Documentation for Breakfast Cereals](#)” in this document.

Fortified breakfast cereals that are not WGR count with other enriched grains toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP. Enriched grains cannot exceed 20 percent of the grains offered at lunch and breakfast (refer to “[WGR Requirement](#)” in this document). The limit for enriched grains does not apply to the ASP.

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

### Bran and germ

Bran and germ credit the same as enriched grains in all school nutrition programs. Bran (such as oat bran, wheat bran, corn bran, rice bran, and rye bran) is the seed husk or outer coating of cereal grains such as wheat, rye, and oats. Germ (such as wheat germ) is the vitamin-rich embryo of the grain kernel.

The ingredients statement below shows an example of a creditable breakfast cereal that contains wheat bran as the first ingredient.



Ingredients: **Wheat bran**, sugar, malt flavor, contains 2% or less of salt. **Vitamins and Minerals:** *Calcium carbonate, vitamin C (sodium ascorbate and ascorbic acid), reduced iron, niacinamide, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin), folic acid, vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, vitamin D.*

This breakfast cereal is creditable because it is fortified and does not contain any noncreditable grains. It is not WGR because bran is not a whole grain. This breakfast cereal credits in all school nutrition programs and counts toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP.

Enriched or fortified bran cereals count with other enriched grains toward the weekly limit for enriched grains in the NSLP and SBP. Enriched grains cannot exceed 20 percent of the grains offered at lunch and breakfast (refer to “[WGR Requirement](#)” in this document). The limit for enriched grains does not apply to the ASP.

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

**Table 2. Examples of Crediting RTE breakfast cereals in the NSLP, SBP, and ASP meal patterns for grades K-12**

Ingredients	Type of cereal <sup>1,2</sup>	Meets noncreditable grains limit for NSLP and SBP?	Creditable?
<p><b>Whole-grain wheat</b>, raisins, <b>wheat bran</b>, sugar, brown sugar syrup, contains 2% or less of salt, malt flavor. <b>Vitamins and Minerals:</b> <i>Potassium chloride, niacinamide, reduced iron, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine hydrochloride), zinc oxide, vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin), vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, folic acid, vitamin D, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WGR <input type="checkbox"/> Enriched <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fortified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> No	Yes
<p><b>Milled corn</b>, sugar, malt flavor, contains 2% or less of salt. <b>Vitamins and Minerals:</b> <i>Iron, vitamin C (sodium ascorbate, ascorbic acid), niacinamide, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin), vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, folic acid, vitamin D, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> WGR <input type="checkbox"/> Enriched <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fortified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> No	Yes
<p><b>Wheat bran</b>, sugar, malt flavor, contains 2% or less of salt. <b>Vitamins and Minerals:</b> <i>Calcium carbonate, vitamin C (sodium ascorbate and ascorbic acid), reduced iron, niacinamide, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin), folic acid, vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, vitamin D.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> WGR <input type="checkbox"/> Enriched <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fortified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> No	Yes
<p><b>Puffed rice</b>, <i>ferrous sulfate (a source of iron), niacinamide, citric acid, thiamin mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> WGR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enriched <input type="checkbox"/> Fortified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> No	Yes
<p><b>Whole grain rolled oats</b>, sugar, natural flavors, salt.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WGR <input type="checkbox"/> Enriched <input type="checkbox"/> Fortified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> No	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Enriched breakfast cereals cannot exceed 20 percent of weekly grain items offered in the NSLP and SBP.

<sup>2</sup> Fortified breakfast cereals that are not WGR count toward the NSLP and SBP weekly limit for enriched grains.

<sup>3</sup> This cereal does not contain any noncreditable grains and therefore meets the NSLP and SBP limit.



# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

## Crediting Documentation for Breakfast Cereals

SFAs must be able to document that all breakfast cereals served in reimbursable meals and ASP snacks meet the meal pattern crediting requirements. A PFS from the manufacturer is required if the product's ingredients statement and packaging do not provide sufficient information to determine if it meets the crediting or WGR criteria. For guidance on when a PFS is required and the information it must include, refer to the CSDE's resource, *When Commercial Grain Products Require a Product Formulation Statement to Credit in the School Nutrition Programs*.

SFAs must verify the accuracy of the PFS before including the breakfast cereal in reimbursable meals and snacks. Crediting documentation must be maintained on file. The CSDE will review this information during the Administrative Review of the school nutrition programs.

If the manufacturer will not supply a PFS or the PFS does not provide the appropriate documentation, the breakfast cereal cannot credit as the grains component in the meal patterns for school nutrition programs.

For more information on PFS forms, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Using Product Formulation Statements in the School Nutrition Programs* and *Accepting Processed Product Documentation in the NSLP and SBP*, and the USDA's handouts, *Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs* and *Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement*. The steps for how to evaluate a grain product's PFS are available in the CSDE's resource, *When Commercial Grain Products Require a Product Formulation Statement to Credit in the School Nutrition Programs*.

Training on the requirements for PFS forms is available in Module 6: Meal Pattern Documentation of the CSDE's training program, *What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12*.





# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

## Serving Size

The USDA’s chart, *Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs*, summarizes the required quantities for nine groups (A-I) of creditable grain foods. Cooked breakfast cereals (regular and instant) are in group H and cold RTE breakfast cereals are in group I. The required quantities in Exhibit A are listed in ounce equivalents or servings, depending on the school nutrition program.

- NSLP, SBP, and SSO:** The required quantities for the grains component are in ounce equivalents. The CSDE’s *Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP* lists the Exhibit A grain ounce equivalents that apply to the NSLP and SBP meal patterns for grades K-12.
- ASP:** The required quantities for the grains/breads component are in servings. The CSDE’s *Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP* lists the Exhibit A grains/breads servings that apply to the ASP meal patterns for grades K-12. One grains/breads serving is slightly less than 1 ounce equivalent. ASP sponsors may choose to use grain ounce equivalents for grades K-12 to simplify menu planning and provide consistency across the school nutrition programs.

Table 3 summarizes the required quantities for breakfast cereals in the NSLP, SBP, and ASP meal patterns for grade K-12. The minimum creditable amount is ¼ ounce equivalent or ¼ serving.

Table 3. Required quantities of breakfast cereals for grades K-12			
Type of breakfast cereal		NSLP and SBP	ASP
		1 ounce equivalent	1 serving
Group H	Cooked hot	½ cup cooked or 1 ounce (28 grams) dry <sup>1</sup>	½ cup cooked or 25 grams (0.9 ounce) dry <sup>1</sup>
Group I	RTE flakes or rounds	1 cup or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>	¾ cup or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>
	RTE puffed	1¼ cups or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>	¾ cup or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>
	RTE granola	¼ cup or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>	¾ cup or 1 ounce <sup>2</sup>
<sup>1</sup> Cereal grains typically credit based on the cooked serving but menu planners may choose to use the dry uncooked weight. <sup>2</sup> The serving is based on weight or volume, whichever is less. If the appropriate volume of cereal weighs less than 1 ounce (28 grams), it still credits as 1 ounce equivalent. For example, 1 cup of flaked cereal that weighs 26 grams credits as 1 ounce equivalent.			

# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

## Resources

Afterschool Snack Program Handbook (CSDE)

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/ASP\\_Handbook.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/ASP_Handbook.pdf)

Calculating the Weekly Percentage of Whole Grain-rich Menu Items in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Calculate\\_WGR\\_Percentage\\_SNP.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Calculate_WGR_Percentage_SNP.pdf)

Calculation Methods for Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Grain\\_Calculation\\_SNP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Grain_Calculation_SNP_grades_K-12.pdf)

Calculation Methods for Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Grain\\_Calculation\\_ASP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Grain_Calculation_ASP_grades_K-12.pdf)

Comparison of Meal Pattern Requirements for the Grains Component in the School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/ComparisonGrainCreditingSNP.pdf>

Crediting Enriched Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit\\_Enriched\\_Grains\\_SNP.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit_Enriched_Grains_SNP.pdf)

Crediting Whole Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit\\_Whole\\_Grains\\_SNP.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit_Whole_Grains_SNP.pdf)

CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 11-19: Weekly Whole Grain-rich (WGR) Requirement for the NSLP and SBP Meal Patterns for Grades K-12

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2019/OM11-19.pdf>

Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

<https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/ExhibitA.pdf>

Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Grain\\_Oz\\_Eq\\_SNP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Grain_Oz_Eq_SNP_grades_K-12.pdf)

Grains Component for Grades K-12 (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents#Grains>

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

Grains/Breads Component for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program/Documents#GrainsBreadsK12>

Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Grain\\_Servings\\_ASP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/ASP/Grain_Servings_ASP_grades_K-12.pdf)

Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Patterns-School-Nutrition-Programs>

Meal Patterns for the ASP (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Afterschool-Snack-Program#MealPatternsASP>

Meeting the Whole Grain-rich Requirement for the NSLP and SBP Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/WGR\\_Criteria\\_SNP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/WGR_Criteria_SNP_grades_K-12.pdf)

Menu Planning Guide for School Meals for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Menu-Planning-Guide-for-School-Meals>

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

[https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\\_Grains\\_Oz\\_Eq\\_Fillable\\_508.pdf](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS_Grains_Oz_Eq_Fillable_508.pdf)

Product Formulation Statement for Documenting Grains in Child Nutrition Programs – Completed Sample (USDA):

[https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS\\_Example\\_Grains\\_Oz\\_Eq.pdf](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/PFS_Example_Grains_Oz_Eq.pdf)

Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer’s Product Formulation Statement (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/manufacturerPFStipsheet.pdf>

USDA Memo SP 05-2022: Meal Requirements Under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Questions and Answers for Program Operators Updated to Support the Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Effective July 1, 2022:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/sp052022-questions-answers-program-operators>

USDA Memo SP 24-2020, CACFP 13-2020 and SFSP 13-2020: Questions and Answers for the Child Nutrition Programs during School Year 2020-2021:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19/questions-and-answers-child-nutrition-programs-during-sy-2020-21>

Using Product Formulation Statements in the School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Product\\_Formulation\\_Statements.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Product_Formulation_Statements.pdf)

## Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

What's in a Meal Module 6: Meal Pattern Documentation (CSDE's Training Program, What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Pattern-Training-Materials>

What's in a Meal Module 11: Grains Component (CSDE's Training Program, What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Pattern-Training-Materials>

What's in a Meal Module 12: Whole Grain-rich Requirement (CSDE's Training Program, What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Pattern-Training-Materials>

What's in a Meal Module 13: Grains Ounce Equivalents (CSDE's Training Program, What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Meal-Pattern-Training-Materials>

When Commercial Grain Products Require a Product Formulation Statement to Credit in the School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/When\\_Commercial\\_Grain\\_Products\\_Require\\_PFS\\_SNP.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/When_Commercial_Grain_Products_Require_PFS_SNP.pdf)

Whole Grain Resource for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/whole-grain-resource-national-school-lunch-and-breakfast-programs>

Worksheet to Calculate the Weekly Percentage of Whole Grain-rich Menu Items in School Lunch and Breakfast Menus for Grades K-12 (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Worksheet\\_Calculate\\_WGR\\_Percentage\\_SNP\\_grades\\_K-12.xlsx](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Worksheet_Calculate_WGR_Percentage_SNP_grades_K-12.xlsx)

# Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP



For more information, refer to the CSDE's *Menu Planning Guide for School Meals for Grades K-12* and visit the CSDE's [Meal Patterns for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs](#) and [Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpages, or contact the [school nutrition programs staff](#) at the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit\\_Cereals\\_SNP\\_grades\\_K-12.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/Credit_Cereals_SNP_grades_K-12.pdf).

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1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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