

## Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program

Foods served in reimbursable meals and snacks must meet the [SFSP Meal Patterns](#). For more information on the SFSP meal patterns and crediting requirements, visit the “[Meal Patterns for the SFSP](#)” and “[Crediting Foods in the SFSP](#)” sections of the Connecticut State Department of Education’s (CSDE) SFSP webpage.

### Definition of Noncreditable Foods

Noncreditable foods are foods and beverages that do not count toward the meal patterns for the USDA Child Nutrition Programs. They include foods and beverages in amounts too small to credit (i.e., less than the minimum creditable amount), and foods and beverages that do not belong to the meal pattern components. Examples include potato chips, pudding, ice cream, gelatin, cream cheese, bacon, condiments (e.g., syrup, jam, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and butter), and water. The chart on page 2 lists additional examples of noncreditable foods in the SFSP meal patterns. This list is not all-inclusive.

### Requirements for Noncreditable Foods

SFSP funds cannot be used to purchase noncreditable foods, except for condiments served with creditable foods. For example, SFSP funds cannot be used to purchase gelatin, pudding, or canned cream soups. For more information, refer to [USDA Memo SP 06-2012: Serving Additional Foods in the Summer Food Service Program](#).

SFSP sponsors may serve noncreditable foods in addition to the meal components to add variety, help improve acceptability in the meal, and satisfy appetites. Some examples include maple syrup on pancakes, salad dressing on tossed greens, and condiments such as ketchup or mustard on sandwiches and other entrees.

To ensure that SFSP meals and snacks meet children’s nutritional needs, the CSDE encourages SFSP sponsors to use discretion when serving noncreditable foods. Noncreditable foods typically contain few nutrients and are higher in added sugars, saturated fats, and sodium. Menu planners should read labels, be aware of the ingredients in foods, and limit the frequency and amount of less nutritious choices.



## Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program

### Examples of noncreditable foods in the SFSP meal patterns <sup>1</sup>

For additional guidance, refer to the menu planning notes on page 3.

Almond flour	Frozen yogurt
Almond milk <sup>2</sup>	Fruit drink, fruit beverage, powdered fruit drink mix
Bacon (pork)	Fruit leathers
Bacon bits, regular or imitation	Fruit punch (not 100 percent juice)
Banana chips	Fruit snacks, e.g., fruit roll-ups, wrinkles, and twists
Bread products that are not whole grain, enriched, or a blend of creditable grains <sup>3</sup>	Gelatin, regular and sugar free
Butter	Grain-based desserts at lunch and supper, e.g., cookies, granola bars, cake, and pastries
Candy <sup>3</sup>	Grain products and recipes that are not whole grain, enriched, or a blend of creditable grains <sup>3</sup>
Candy-coated popcorn	Home-canned products, e.g., vegetables and fruits
Chili sauce	Honey
Chocolate milk-based drinks, e.g., Yoo-Hoo	Hot chocolate
Coconut flour	Ice cream and ice cream novelties
Coconut milk	Ice milk
Coffee (regular, decaffeinated, and iced)	Iced coffee
Commercial processed products without a Child Nutrition (CN) label or product formulation statement (PFS), e.g., entrees, smoothies, and breaded vegetables <sup>4</sup>	Iced tea
Commercial smoothies that contain dietary or herbal supplements	Imitation cheese
Condiments, e.g., ketchup, mustard, relish, barbecue sauce	Jam and jelly
Cranberry cocktail drink	Ketchup
Cream, half and half	Lemonade
Cream cheese	Limeade
Cream soups, canned, e.g., cream of mushroom, cream of celery, cream of broccoli	Liquid egg substitutes
Dehydrated vegetables used for seasoning	Maple syrup
Drinkable or squeezable yogurt and yogurt drinks <sup>5</sup>	Margarine
Eggnog	Marshmallows
Egg whites without the yolk	Mayonnaise
	Mustard
	Nectar drinks
	Nondairy milk substitutes, e.g., almond milk, rice milk, cashew milk, oat milk <sup>2</sup>
	Nutrition supplement beverages, e.g., Abbott's Pediasure

## Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program

### Examples of noncreditable foods for the ASP meal pattern for grades K-12 <sup>1</sup>

Oat milk <sup>2</sup>	Soups, commercial non-vegetable, e.g.,
Pickle relish	beef barley, beef noodle, turkey or
Popsicles (not 100 percent juice)	chicken noodle, and turkey or
Potato chips	chicken rice
Powdered milk beverages, e.g., Nestle's NIDO	Sour cream
Probiotic dairy drinks	Soy milk <sup>2</sup>
Pudding	Sports drinks, regular and diet
Pudding pops	Spreadable fruit
Rice milk <sup>2</sup>	Syrup
Salad dressings	Tea (regular, herbal, and iced
Salt pork	Tofu with less than 5 grams of protein
Scrapple	in 2.2 ounces (weight) or ¼ cup
Sherbet	(volume) <sup>6</sup>
Soda, regular and diet	Water
Soups, commercial cream of vegetable, e.g., cream of broccoli, cream of mushroom, and cream of celery	Yogurt products, e.g., drinkable or squeezable yogurt, frozen yogurt, yogurt bars, and yogurt-covered fruits and nuts

### Menu Planning Notes

- <sup>1</sup> For SFSP sites operating in schools, state laws prohibit selling and giving certain foods and beverages to children on school premises. Review all noncreditable foods to ensure compliance before selling to students. For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage and [Beverage Requirements](#) webpage.
- <sup>2</sup> **For SFSP sites operating in schools only:** Nondairy milk substitutes credit only for children with a disability based on a medical statement from a recognized medical authority. For additional guidance, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Requirements for the Milk Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns](#), and visit the "Meal Modifications for Special Diets" section of the CSDE's SFSP webpage.
- <sup>3</sup> For guidance on creditable grains, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Requirements for the Grains/Breads Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns](#).
- <sup>4</sup> Commercial processed products without a CN label or PFS cannot credit in SFSP meals and snacks. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resources, [Using Child Nutrition \(CN\) Labels in the Summer Food Service Program](#), [Using Product Formulation Statements in the Summer Food Service Program](#), and [Accepting Processed Product Documentation in the Summer Food Service Program](#), and the USDA's [Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement](#).

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- <sup>5</sup> For guidance on crediting yogurt, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Crediting Yogurt in the Summer Food Service Program](#).
- <sup>6</sup> For guidance on crediting tofu, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the Summer Food Service Program](#).

### Resources

Accepting Processed Product Documentation in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/accepting\\_processed\\_product\\_documentation\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/accepting_processed_product_documentation_sfsp.pdf)

Administrative Guidance for SFSP Sponsors (USDA):

[https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP\\_Admin\\_Guide\\_Sept2016.pdf](https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP_Admin_Guide_Sept2016.pdf)

Crediting Breakfast Cereals in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_cereals\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_cereals_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Commercial Processed Products ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's SFSP webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/summer-food-service-program/documents#CreditingCommercialProcessedProducts>

Crediting Foods Made from Scratch Products ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's SFSP webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/summer-food-service-program/documents#CreditingFoodsScratch>

Crediting Deli Meats in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_deli\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_deli_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Enriched Grains in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_enriched\\_grains\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_enriched_grains_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Foods in the Summer Food Service Program ("Documents/Forms" section of CSDE's SFSP webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/summer-food-service-program/documents>

Crediting Juice in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_juice\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_juice_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Legumes in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_legumes\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_legumes_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Nuts and Seeds in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_nuts\\_seeds\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_nuts_seeds_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Smoothies in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_smoothies\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_smoothies_sfsp.pdf)

## Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_tofu\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_tofu_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Summary Charts for the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/crediting\\_summary\\_charts\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/crediting_summary_charts_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Whole Grains in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_whole\\_grains\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_whole_grains_sfsp.pdf)

Crediting Yogurt in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit\\_yogurt\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/credit_yogurt_sfsp.pdf)

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>

Meal Patterns for the SFSP (“How To” Section of CSDE’s SFSP webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/summer-food-service-program/how-to#MealPatterns>

Requirements for the Grains/Breads Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component\\_grains\\_breads\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component_grains_breads_sfsp.pdf)

Requirements for the Meat/Meat Alternates Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component\\_mma\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component_mma_sfsp.pdf)

Requirements for the Milk Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component\\_milk\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component_milk_sfsp.pdf)

Requirements for the Vegetables/Fruits Component of the Summer Food Service Program Meal Patterns (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component\\_vegetables\\_fruits\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/component_vegetables_fruits_sfsp.pdf)

Using Child Nutrition (CN) Labels in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/cn\\_labels\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/cn_labels_sfsp.pdf)

Using Product Formulation Statements in the Summer Food Service Program (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/product\\_formulation\\_statements\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfsp/product_formulation_statements_sfsp.pdf)

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>

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For more information, visit the [Meal Patterns for the SFSP](#) and [Crediting Foods in the SFSP](#) sections of the CSDE's SFSP webpage or contact the [Summer Meals 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/sfsp/creditingfoods/noncreditable\\_foods\\_sfsp.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/sfsp/creditingfoods/noncreditable_foods_sfsp.pdf).

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2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
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