

Preschool Meal Pattern Training for the School Nutrition Programs

Module 2 Worksheet: Co-Mingled Meal Service



“Co-mingling” is the practice of serving meals to a variety of grades in the same service area at the same time, such as preschoolers and grades K-5 or preschoolers and grades K-8. School food authorities may use the meal pattern of the older grades for both grade groups when students are co-mingled if the meal service meets the following conditions: 1) the preschoolers and students from older grade groups eat together in the same place at the same time; 2) it is hard to tell the preschoolers from older students; and 3) it would be operationally difficult to serve different foods or different amounts of foods during the combined meal service.

Instructions: Indicate if each meal service scenario is co-mingled and why or why not.

Meal service	Are these meals or snacks co-mingled? Why or why not?
1. Preschoolers are mixed together with students in grades K-5 and both grade groups go through the serving line together at lunch.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Preschoolers and grades K-8 arrive at school at the same time and enter the cafeteria serving line together to get breakfast.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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Meal service	Are these meals or snacks co-mingled? Why or why not?
3. Preschoolers and grades K-8 are served ASP snack in the same service area at the same time.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Preschoolers and grades K-5 eat together during the same meal period but one serving line is used for preschoolers and another serving line is used for grades K-5.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. A school with preschoolers and grades K-8 offers a bagged grab-and-go breakfast from one location that is available to students at the beginning of the school day.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. At lunch, the preschool classes eat immediately after the older grade groups and food service staff do not have time to switch serving utensils or change food items, such as removing flavored milk.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Preschoolers eat breakfast in the classroom.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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The Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) **Preschool Meal Patterns Training for the School Nutrition Programs** is a series of eight recorded modules that provide comprehensive guidance on complying with the preschool meal patterns for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP, and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP. To access the training modules and resources, visit the CSDE's [Meal Patterns for Preschoolers in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

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