

## Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs<sup>1,2</sup>

Color Key Footnote: **Footnote 3 or 4 = Red**, **Footnote 5 = Blue**

Food Products per Group	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq)	Minimum Serving Size
<b>Group A</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group A</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group A</b>
Bread type coating Bread sticks (hard) Chow Mein noodles Savory crackers (saltines and snack crackers) Croutons Pretzels (hard) Stuffing (dry) Note: weights apply to bread in stuffing	1 oz eq = 22 gm or 0.8 oz ¾ oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz ½ oz eq = 11 gm or 0.4 oz ¼ oz eq = 6 gm or 0.2 oz	1 serving = 20 gm or 0.7 oz ¾ serving = 15 gm or 0.5 oz ½ serving = 10 gm or 0.4 oz ¼ serving = 5 gm or 0.2 oz
<b>Group B</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group B</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group B</b>
Bagels Batter type coating Biscuits Breads—all (for example sliced, French, Italian) Buns (hamburger and hot dog) Sweet crackers <sup>5</sup> (graham crackers - all shapes, animal crackers) Egg roll skins English muffins Pita bread Pizza crust Pretzels (soft) Rolls Tortillas Tortilla chips Taco shells	1 oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz ¾ oz eq = 21 gm or 0.75 oz ½ oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz ¼ oz eq = 7 gm or 0.25 oz	1 serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz ¾ serving = 19 gm or 0.7 oz ½ serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz ¼ serving = 6 gm or 0.2 oz

1 In the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) (grades K–12), and NSLP afterschool snacks (by July 1, 2025), at least 80 percent of the weekly grains offered must meet the whole grain-rich criteria and the remaining grain items offered must be made from whole-grain flour, whole-grain meal, corn masa, masa harina, hominy, enriched flour, enriched meal, bran, germ, or be an enriched product, such as enriched bread, or a fortified cereal. Please note: State agencies have the discretion to set stricter requirements than the minimum nutrition standards for school meals. For additional guidance, please contact your State agency. For all other Child Nutrition Programs, grains must be made from whole-grain flour, whole-grain meal, corn masa, masa harina, hominy, enriched flour, enriched meal, bran, germ, or be an enriched product, such as enriched bread, or a fortified cereal. Under the Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP) child and adult meal patterns and in the NSLP/SBP preschool meals, at least one grain serving per day must meet the whole grain-rich criteria.

2 For the NSLP, SBP (grades K–12), NSLP afterschool snacks, and CACFP, and NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals grain quantities are determined using ounce equivalents (oz eq). Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) may determine grain quantities using grains/breads servings. Some of the following grain items may contain more sugar, salt, and/or fat than others. This should be a consideration when deciding how often to serve them.

5 Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K–12) as specified in §210.10. May count toward the grains component in the SBP (grades K–12), NSLP afterschool snacks, CACFP, NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals, and SFSP.

Chart continues on next page

Food Products per Group	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq)	Minimum Serving Size
<b>Group C</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group C</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group C</b>
Cookies <sup>3</sup> (plain - includes vanilla wafers) Cornbread Corn muffins Croissants Pancakes Pie crust (dessert pies <sup>3</sup> , cobbler <sup>3</sup> , fruit turnovers <sup>4</sup> , and meats/meat alternate pies) Waffles	1 oz eq = 34 gm or 1.2 oz ¾ oz eq = 26 gm or 0.9 oz ½ oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz ¼ oz eq = 9 gm or 0.3 oz	1 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz ¾ serving = 23 gm or 0.8 oz ½ serving = 16 gm or 0.6 oz ¼ serving = 8 gm or 0.3 oz
<b>Group D</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group D</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group D</b>
Doughnuts <sup>4</sup> (cake and yeast raised, unfrosted) Cereal bars, breakfast bars, granola bars <sup>4</sup> (plain) Muffins (all, except corn) Sweet roll <sup>4</sup> (unfrosted) Toaster pastry <sup>4</sup> (unfrosted)	1 oz eq = 55 gm or 2.0 oz ¾ oz eq = 42 gm or 1.5 oz ½ oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz ¼ oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz	1 serving = 50 gm or 1.8 oz ¾ serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz ½ serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz ¼ serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz
<b>Group E</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group E</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group E</b>
Cereal bars, breakfast bars, granola bars <sup>4</sup> (with nuts, dried fruit, and/or chocolate pieces) Cookies <sup>3</sup> (with nuts, raisins, chocolate pieces and/or fruit purees) Doughnuts <sup>4</sup> (cake and yeast raised, frosted, or glazed) French toast Sweet rolls <sup>4</sup> (frosted) Toaster pastry <sup>4</sup> (frosted)	1 oz eq = 69 gm or 2.4 oz ¾ oz eq = 52 gm or 1.8 oz ½ oz eq = 35 gm or 1.2 oz ¼ oz eq = 18 gm or 0.6 oz	1 serving = 63 gm or 2.2 oz ¾ serving = 47 gm or 1.7 oz ½ serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz ¼ serving = 16 gm or 0.6 oz
<b>Group F</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group F</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group F</b>
Cake <sup>3</sup> (plain, unfrosted) Coffee cake <sup>4</sup>	1 oz eq = 82 gm or 2.9 oz ¾ oz eq = 62 gm or 2.2 oz ½ oz eq = 41 gm or 1.5 oz ¼ oz eq = 21 gm or 0.7 oz	1 serving = 75 gm or 2.7 oz ¾ serving = 56 gm or 2 oz ½ serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz ¼ serving = 19 gm or 0.7 oz

3 Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K–12) as specified in §210.10 and at snack service in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count toward the grains component in CACFP or NSLP afterschool snacks (effective July 1, 2025), or NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

4 Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week for grades K–12) as specified in §210.10. May count toward the grains component in SBP (grades K–12) and at snack and breakfast meals in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count toward the grains component in the CACFP, NSLP afterschool snacks (effective July 1, 2025), or NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

Chart continues on next page

Food Products per Group	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq)	Minimum Serving Size
<b>Group G</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group G</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group G</b>
Brownies <sup>3</sup> (plain) Cake <sup>3</sup> (all varieties, frosted)	1 oz eq = 125 gm or 4.4 oz ¾ oz eq = 94 gm or 3.3 oz ½ oz eq = 63 gm or 2.2 oz ¼ oz eq = 32 gm or 1.1 oz	1 serving = 115 gm or 4 oz ¾ serving = 86 gm or 3 oz ½ serving = 58 gm or 2 oz ¼ serving = 29 gm or 1 oz
<b>Group H</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group H</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group H</b>
Cereal grains (barley, quinoa, etc.) Breakfast cereals (cooked) <sup>6,7,8,9</sup> Bulgur or cracked wheat Macaroni (all shapes) Noodles (all varieties) Pasta (all shapes) Ravioli (noodle only) Rice	1 oz eq = ½ cup cooked or 1 ounce (28 gm) dry	1 serving = ½ cup cooked or 25 gm dry
<b>Group I</b>	<b>Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group I</b>	<b>Minimum Serving Size for Group I</b>
Ready to eat breakfast cereal (cold, dry) <sup>6,7,8,9</sup>	1 oz eq = 1 cup or 1 ounce for flakes and rounds 1 oz eq = 1¼ cups or 1 ounce for puffed cereal 1 oz eq = ¼ cup or 1 ounce for granola	1 serving = ¾ cup or 1 oz, whichever is less

3 Allowed in NSLP (up to 2.0 oz eq grain-based dessert per week in grades K–12) as specified in §210.10 and at snack service in SFSP. Considered a grain-based dessert and cannot count toward the grains component in CACFP, NSLP afterschool snacks (effective July 1, 2025), or NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals as specified in §§226.20(a)(4) and 210.10.

6 Refer to program regulations for the appropriate serving size for supplements served to children aged 1 through 5 in the NSLP; breakfast served in the SBP, and meals served to children ages 1 through 5 and adult participants in the CACFP. Breakfast cereals are traditionally served as a breakfast menu item but may be served in meals other than breakfast.

7 In the NSLP and SBP, cereals that list a whole grain as the first ingredient must be fortified. If the cereal is 100 percent whole grain, fortification is not required. For all Child Nutrition Programs, cereals must be whole-grain, enriched, or fortified.

8 Effective July 1, 2025, cereals served in NSLP, SBP, and NSLP afterschool snacks must contain no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce.

9 Effective October 1, 2025, cereals served in CACFP and NSLP/SBP infant and preschool meals must contain no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce. Prior to October 1, 2025, breakfast cereals served in the CACFP must contain no more than 6 grams of total sugars per dry ounce.