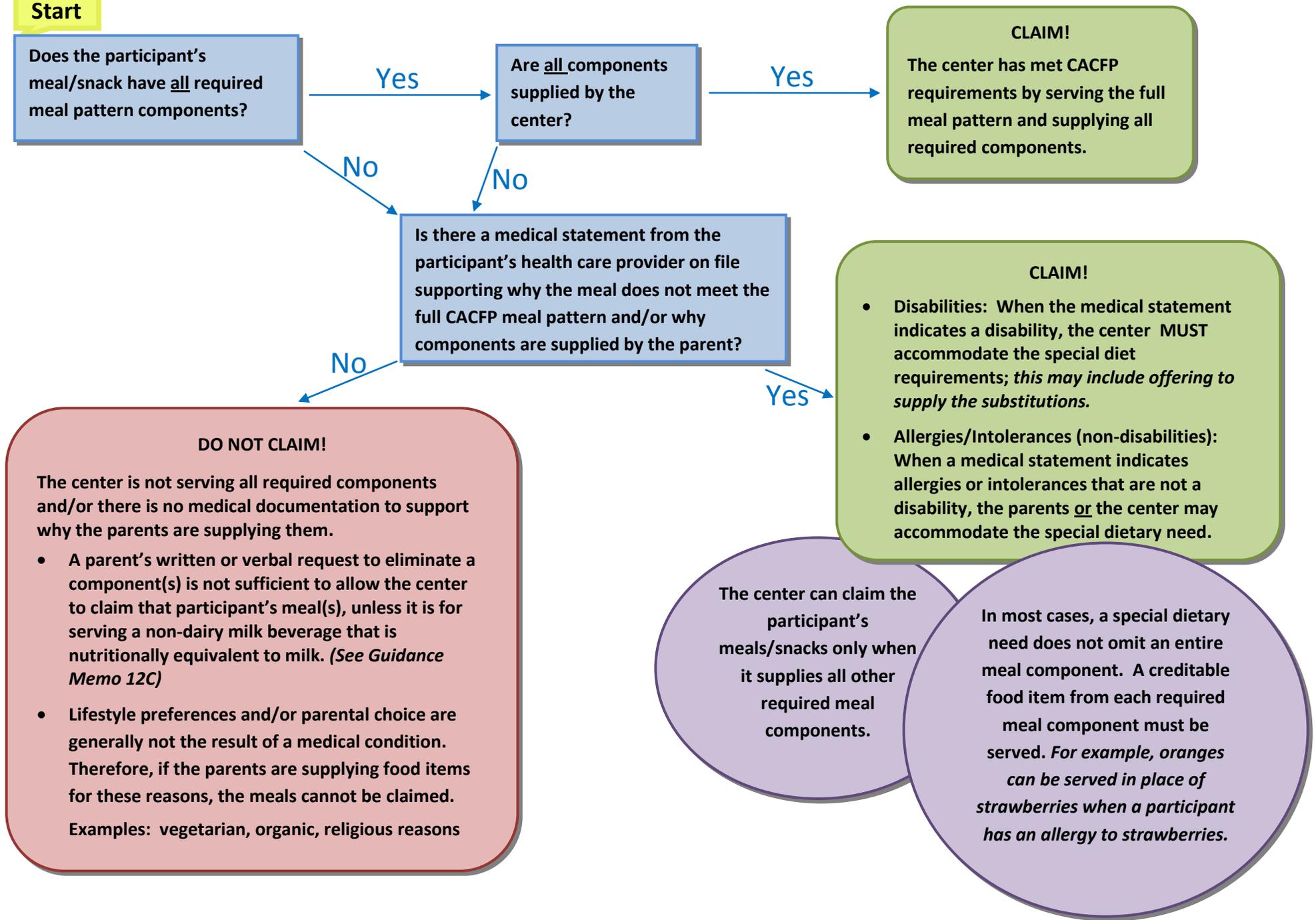


Can my center claim this participant's meal for CACFP reimbursement?

Start



DO NOT CLAIM!

The center is not serving all required components and/or there is no medical documentation to support why the parents are supplying them.

- A parent's written or verbal request to eliminate a component(s) is not sufficient to allow the center to claim that participant's meal(s), unless it is for serving a non-dairy milk beverage that is nutritionally equivalent to milk. *(See Guidance Memo 12C)*
- Lifestyle preferences and/or parental choice are generally not the result of a medical condition. Therefore, if the parents are supplying food items for these reasons, the meals cannot be claimed.
Examples: vegetarian, organic, religious reasons

CLAIM!

The center has met CACFP requirements by serving the full meal pattern and supplying all required components.

CLAIM!

- **Disabilities:** When the medical statement indicates a disability, the center **MUST** accommodate the special diet requirements; *this may include offering to supply the substitutions.*
- **Allergies/Intolerances (non-disabilities):** When a medical statement indicates allergies or intolerances that are not a disability, the parents or the center may accommodate the special dietary need.

The center can claim the participant's meals/snacks only when it supplies all other required meal components.

In most cases, a special dietary need does not omit an entire meal component. A creditable food item from each required meal component must be served. *For example, oranges can be served in place of strawberries when a participant has an allergy to strawberries.*