

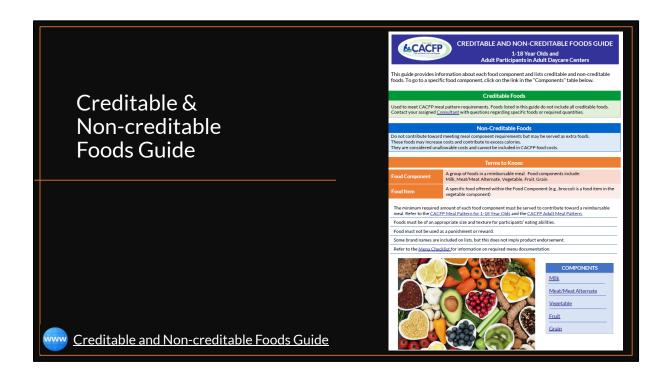
Welcome to Tuesday Talks on Creditable and Non-creditable Foods Part 1 which will cover the milk, vegetable and fruit components for children one year and older and for adult day care participants. We will continue with Part 2 which will cover the meat/meat alternate and grains components in October.



Today, we want you to walk away

- 1. Knowing how to identify creditable and non-creditable foods using a new resource called the Creditable and Non-creditable Foods Guide
- 2. Understanding what some common creditable and non-creditable foods are, and
- 3. Identifying other available resources to help you with serving creditable foods.

Now, let's go through these points in more detail.



The presentation today is going to cover information from a new resource called the *Creditable and Non-creditable Foods Guide* that was just posted in August. The guide includes specific information on each meal component and includes lists of creditable and non-creditable foods. Keep in mind, this guide is not an all-inclusive list. Contact your consultant if you need help determining if a food is creditable in the CACFP. Home providers, contact your home sponsors.

The link to this Guide is in the chat. We recommend you print a copy and give to your menu planners and cooks so they can reference it when needed.

Creditable & Non-creditable Foods

Creditable Foods

Used to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements. Foods listed in this guide do not include all creditable foods. Contact your assigned <u>Consultant</u> with questions regarding specific foods or required quantities.

Non-Creditable Foods

Do not contribute toward meeting meal component requirements but may be served as extra foods. These foods may increase costs and contribute to excess calories. They are considered unallowable costs and cannot be included in CACFP food costs.

So, let's start with the first page and define what Creditable & Non-creditable Foods are.

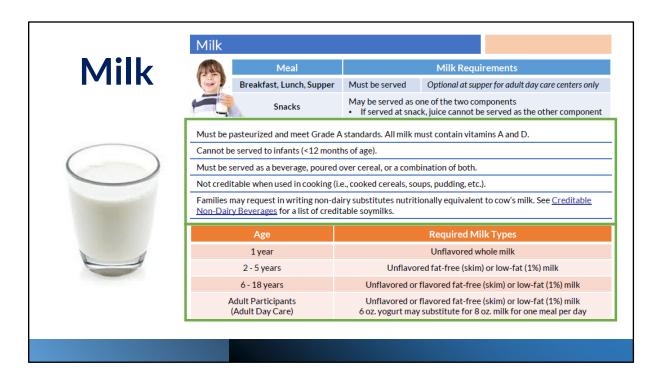
Creditable foods can be served as a component to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements in meals and snacks. To claim a meal for reimbursement, all food components served must be creditable. In each meal component section of the guide, creditable foods are listed in a green box.

Non-creditable foods do not contribute toward meeting meal component requirements. If served, they must be served as extra foods. However, keep in mind if you serve non-creditable foods as extras at meals this increases food costs and adds excess calories to the meal you are serving. In addition, non-creditable foods are an unallowable cost and cannot be paid for with CACFP reimbursement. You must use other program funding to pay for these foods. In each meal component section of the guide, non-creditable foods are listed in a blue box.

Today's presentation will highlight some specific food items from each of these boxes for the milk, vegetable, and fruit components.



Ok, so let's jump into the specific components of the meal pattern and start with the Milk component.



To be creditable, milk must be served as fluid milk. It is not creditable in cooked cereals or soups, but it is creditable when poured over cereal and in smoothies.

There are specific milk types that must be served for different age groups.

One-year olds must be served whole milk.

Children 2 years and older (and adult day care participants) must be served 1% or skim milk.

Only children 6 years and older (and adult day care participants) can be served flavored milk.



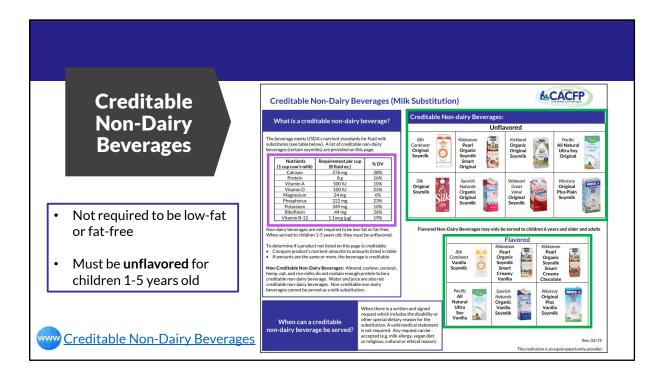
Now let's talk about creditable and non-creditable milks.

A2 milk, which is shown in the picture on the left side of your screen, is creditable and is 100% real cows' milk from cows that only have the A2 protein and not the A1 protein. A2 milk is easier on digestion and may help some people avoid discomfort.

Also, lactose-free and lactose-reduced milks are creditable alternatives for participants who cannot drink regular cow's milk due to lactose intolerance. Lactose-free and lactose-reduced milks are fluid cow's milk that have been modified with the addition of lactase enzymes. The lactose (which is the milk sugar) in this milk has been broken down into simple sugars that is easier to digest. People who cannot digest lactose due to lactose intolerance may benefit from drinking these milks. These milks have the same taste, texture and nutrient profile as regular milk.

As you can see on the slide, all these milks come in different fat contents (for example, whole, 1% and fat-free); therefore, if you serve these, you must serve the appropriate fat content for the age group you're serving, and the milks must be unflavored for children 1-5 years old.

Another creditable alternative to cow's milk is soymilk – which we'll talk about next.



Soymilk is a non-dairy beverage that can be served in place of milk for participants who can't drink cow's milk or who prefer to not drink cow's milk. To be creditable, the soy milk must meet the nutrient standards of regular milk. The handout, Creditable Non-Dairy Beverages, provides a list of creditable soymilks.

It also provides the nutrient content of cow's milk, which must be used to determine if other non-dairy beverages are creditable. However, currently the only creditable non-dairy beverages are the soymilks listed on this handout.

Non-dairy beverages are not required to be low-fat or fat-free. However, when served to children 1-5 years old, they must be unflavored.



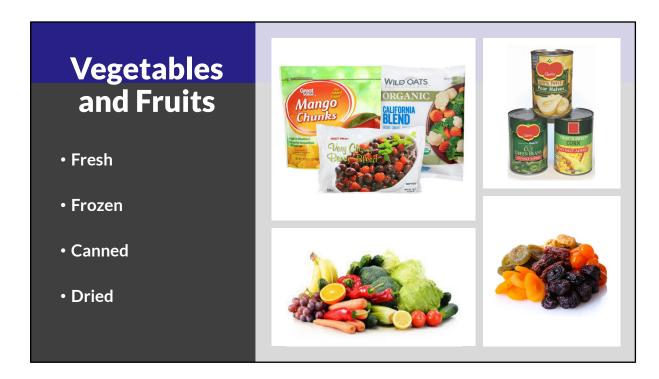
Now let's look at some non-creditable milks in the blue box. Almond, coconut, rice and oat milks are not creditable. We know these are requested to be served to participants with milk intolerances or for personal preference, but they are not creditable because they are not nutritionally equivalent to cow's milk. These may only be served if there is a valid medical statement on file for a disability.

Also, 2% milk is not creditable because it does not meet the fat content that must be served to the different age groups, which is whole milk for 1-year olds, and fat-free or 1% milk for children 2 years and older and adult day care participants.

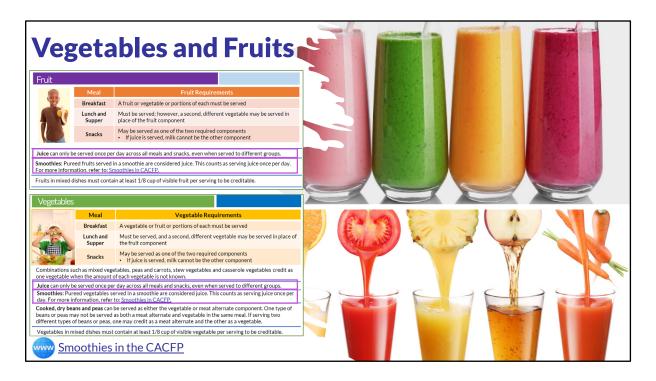
The other items listed in the blue box are not creditable because they are not fluid milk.



Vegetables and fruits are two separate components in the CACFP meal pattern. However, some information on what is creditable is the same for both components, so I will go over these first and then talk about each component separately.



For fruits and vegetables, you can serve all forms: fresh, frozen, canned or dried. In the last Tuesday Talks on Veggie and Fruit Ideas, we gave a lot of ideas on how to serve a variety of fruits and veggies, so if you missed that one, we recommend checking out the recorded webinar and all the resources provided. The webinar is on the Tuesday Talks website.

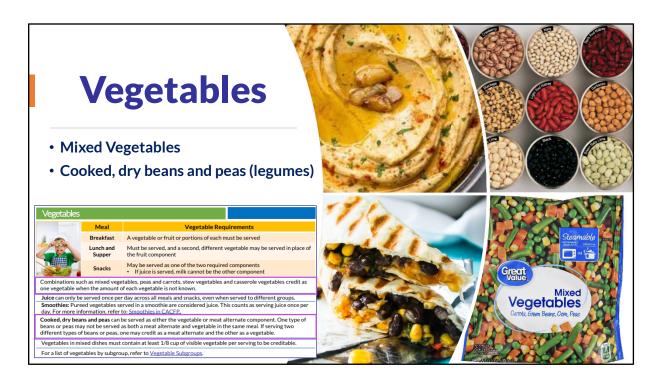


Let's talk about a few specifics with fruits and vegetables. The information we are covering is listed in this section of the Guide.

First is juice. Both fruit or vegetable juice can be served. Juice must be full-strength 100% juice. It can be fresh, canned, frozen or reconstituted with water from concentrate. If juice blends are served, they must be 100% juice or a full-strength juice blend.

Remember, fruit or vegetable juice can only be served once per day across all meals and snacks, even when served to different groups.

Next, let's talk about smoothies: the pureed vegetables and fruits served in a smoothie are considered juice. This counts as serving juice once per day. For more information on crediting foods and amounts in smoothies, refer to the link on the screen for the Smoothies in the CACFP handout.



Now let's talk specifically about vegetables.

Let's start with mixed vegetables. Combinations of mixed vegetables, such as peas and carrots credit as only one vegetable when the amount of each vegetable in the mixture is not known. So, at lunch or supper, when you can serve a second vegetable in place of the fruit component, mixed vegetables only count as one vegetable. Another vegetable must also be served, for example, broccoli or cauliflower.

Next let's talk about cooked, dry beans and peas (or legumes) such as pinto, kidney or black beans. These credit as a vegetable but can also credit as a meat alternate. When serving one type of bean at a meal, it can credit as the vegetable or meat alternate, but not both in the same meal.

However, if you serve two different types of beans (for example black beans in a burrito and hummus), you can count the black beans as the meat alternate and the hummus as the vegetable (or vice versa) if you serve the minimum creditable amount of each.



Now let's point out some creditable vegetables that are listed in the green Creditable Vegetables box.

As previously mentioned, all fresh, frozen, canned or dried vegetables are creditable. A few foods that are often mistaken as being creditable to other components are avocados, tomatoes and potatoes. These foods are creditable as vegetables.

Another item you may not be familiar with is pasta made of 100% bean, pea or legume flours. It may credit toward the vegetable component based on volume served. For pasta made with less than 100% bean or pea flour, you must obtain a CN label or Product Formulation Statement to credit toward the vegetable component.

You can also serve vegetable spirals made from fresh vegetables such as squash or zucchini which are creditable toward the vegetable component based on volume served.

There are also a lot uncommon vegetables listed in the chart, such as azuki beans and Gai lan which is Chinese broccoli or kale.



So, now let's talk about some foods that are not creditable as vegetables.

Grain-based pasta that has small amounts of vegetable powders (such as spinach or tomato) for coloring are not creditable as a vegetable. As I mentioned on the previous slide, for vegetable pastas to be creditable, they must be made from 100% bean, pea or legume flour.

Chili sauce, ketchup and pickle relish are not creditable as vegetables. They are considered condiments. Items such as condiments, spices, and other ingredients used in recipes are not creditable and cannot count as a meal component but may be included as a CACFP food cost.

Also, potato chips or sticks, and veggie straws, chips or sticks are not creditable as vegetables because they are considered a processed, snack-type food.

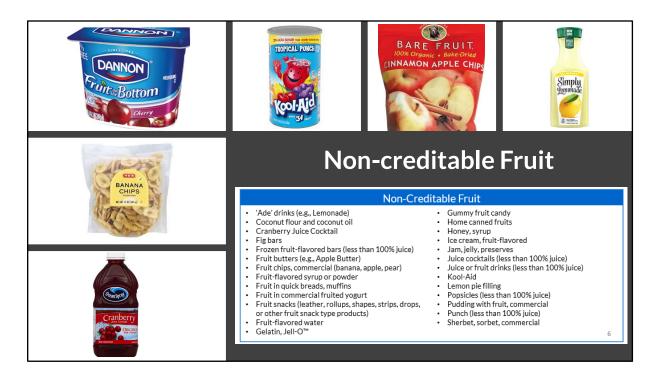


Now let's talk about some creditable fruits from the green Creditable Fruit box.

As previously mentioned, all fresh, frozen, canned or dried fruit is creditable. There are many varieties to choose from, so you can be creative and serve different fruits each day, like mango, plums, kiwi, nectarines, strawberries, blueberries, and star fruit.

However, some more uncommon fruits are also listed in this box. One example is lychee fruit, which is native to China and has a sweet taste to it. Some people say it tastes like a grape with a hint of rose, or a pear or watermelon.

A different way to serve fruit is as a fruit sauce. Fruit sauce must contain visible fruit in each serving, so it is recommended to make it homemade by mashing up the fruit, such as berries. Most fruit sauces that you purchase at a store contain an insufficient amount of fruit per serving and are high in sugar. You can serve fruit sauces warm on pancakes, waffles or oatmeal or cold in a yogurt parfait.



And now let's point out some items that are not creditable as fruit.

We previously talked about 100% fruit juice. However, many drinks appear to be juice but are not. For example, fruit drinks that are less than 100% juice like juice cocktails, fruit punch or "ade" drinks such as lemonade and kool-aid. These drinks are not 100% juice and are not creditable.

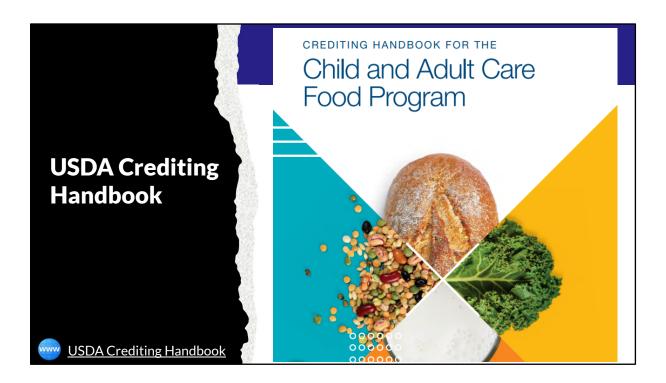
Commercial fried fruit chips, such as banana and other fruit chips, are not creditable and do not meet the fruit component requirements. These highly-processed items are typically high in salt and/or sugar and low in nutrients.

Fruit in store-bought fruited yogurt does not credit as fruit. The entire volume of yogurt with fruit may contribute to the meat alternate component but cannot count toward the fruit component.

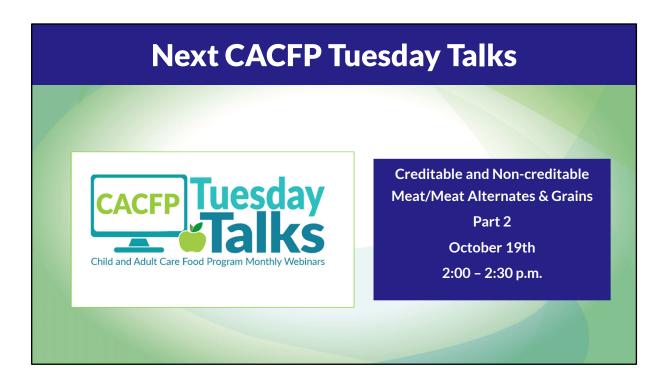


Also not creditable as fruit are fruit snacks and gummy fruit candy, including 100% fruit strips, leather, fruit drops, or other fruit snack type products.

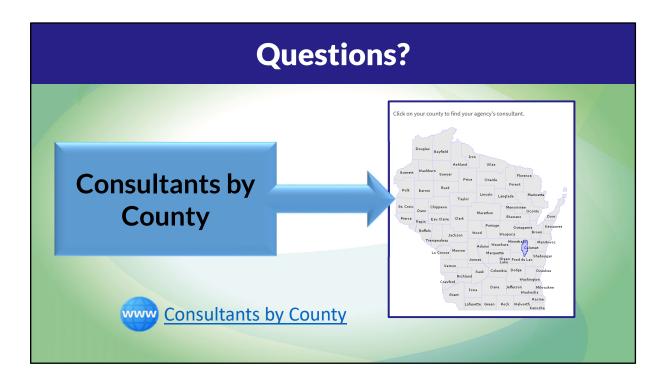
Lastly, Jell-o and gelatin are also not creditable as fruit.



Our final thoughts today are to remind you about the USDA Crediting Handbook for the CACFP. Many of the foods on the new Creditable and Non-creditable foods guide are also listed in this handbook, however, the Handbook includes more information on why certain items are or are not creditable.



That is all we are going to talk about today in Creditable and Non-creditable Foods Part 1. Our next Tuesday Talks is scheduled for October 19th from 2:00 – 2:30 and will be on Creditable and Non-Creditable Foods – Part 2: Meat and Meat Alternates and Grains.



If you have other questions about the CACFP, email your assigned consultant. You can find your agency's consultant at the *Consultants by County* link on this slide.

Family daycare home providers, reach out to your home sponsor with any questions.

The live webinar included time for questions and to complete a survey. These slides were omitted from this handout. Only individuals who attended the live webinar event can complete the survey and receive a Registry Certificate.



Don't forget about past Tuesday Talks that are recorded and available online. Also available is the presentation handout with speaker transcript and Q&As.

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