



New Mexico  
Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program

## Guide to Creditable, Non-Creditable and Non-Reimbursable Foods



1. Use only creditable foods to meet CACFP/SFSP meal pattern requirements.
2. Some non-creditable foods may be served as an “extra” or an enhancement to the CACFP/SFSP meal.
3. Remember that the cost for foods found in the non-creditable/non-reimbursable foods list will not be allowed in the NM CACFP/SFSP.

### Creditable Foods

1. Foods that meet the requirements for CACFP/SFSP meal pattern components.
2. Foods that are found in the USDA Food Buying Guide, Sections 1-4.
3. These include:
  - i. Meat/Meat Alternates
  - ii. Vegetables/Fruits
  - iii. Grains/Breads, and
  - iv. Milk

### Non-Creditable Foods



1. Some foods are classified as “Other Foods” and can be found in the USDA Food Buying Guide, Section 5. These foods are “Non-Creditable”. This means that they do not meet the USDA requirement for any component in the meal patterns of the food-based menu planning approaches.
2. Some of these foods can be served as a condiment, seasoning, or enhancement to the meal and recorded as an “extra”. However, keep in mind many of these foods are high in salt, fat, or sugar and provide little nutrition. Some of these foods pose a choking risk to young children. Consider carefully how often and in what amount you use them. Some examples include:
  - a. Butter, coconut, cream cheese, jam, jelly or preserves, ketchup, chips of any kind, popcorn, pudding, salad dressings, and syrups.
3. A final word on non-creditable foods: Child Nutrition (CN) labeled products that contain one or more of the items found on the non-creditable food list MAY or MAY NOT be allowed as creditable. Contact your State Agency for guidance before purchasing or using the item.

### Non-Creditable/Non-Reimbursable Foods



1. The final category of foods is non-creditable/non-reimbursable.
2. If these items are purchased, their cost will not be considered an allowable food cost.



# Non-Creditable Food List

These foods may not be served to meet any part of the CACFP/SFSP meal pattern requirements or as components.

| <b>Meat/Meat Alternates</b>   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p><b><u>Cheeses</u></b><br/>Canned Cheese<br/>Sauces<br/>Cheese Product<br/>Imitation Cheese<br/>Powdered Cheese</p> | <p><b><u>Meats</u></b><br/>Bacon<br/>Chorizo<br/>Ham Hocks<br/>Hot Dogs or Frankfurters of any kind:<br/><i>Chicken, beef, turkey, soy, or Vienna sausages</i><br/>Link Sausages of any kind<br/>Pepperoni<br/>Processed Luncheon/Deli Meats:<br/><i>Such as salami, olive loaf, or others that are not specifically listed in the USDA Food Buying Guide, and that do not have a CN label.</i><br/>Processed Meat Items in a Can or Package:<br/><i>Spam, deviled ham, potted meat, chicken spread, jerky, pork rinds, etc., that are not specifically listed in the USDA Food Buying Guide.</i><br/>Wild Game Meats <i>If not USDA inspected</i></p> | <p><b><u>Yogurt or Yogurt Products</u></b><br/>Homemade Yogurt<br/>Yogurt Covered Fruit/Nuts<br/>Frozen Yogurt Products</p> <p><b><u>Nuts and Seeds</u></b><br/>Acorns<br/>Chestnuts<br/>Coconut<br/>Nut or Seed Flour<br/>Nut or Seed Meal</p> | <p><b><u>Eggs</u></b><br/>Any Egg Product that is <b>NOT</b> Made From Whole Eggs:<br/><i>Pasteurized, dried, refrigerated or frozen</i></p> <p><b><u>Vegetable Protein Products</u></b><br/>Tofu<br/>Soy Burgers, Garden Burgers, or other Alternate Protein Products (APP)<br/><i>-Without CN label or valid product analysis/specification sheet, these items are NOT creditable</i></p> |

| <b>Vegetables/Fruits</b>   |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p><b><u>Fruits</u></b><br/>Fruit Flavored Syrups<br/>Home Canned Fruits<br/><i>(For food safety reasons.)</i><br/>Jam, Jelly, Spread or Preserves<br/>Pie Filling, Canned<br/>Snack-Type Foods made from Fruits like Banana Chips</p> | <p><b><u>Fruit Flavored Foods &amp; Snacks</u></b><br/>Gummy Snacks:<br/><i>Such as roll-ups, gummy fruits or candy treats, twists, rolls, bits or any other specially shaped fruit-flavored snacks or treats</i><br/>Frozen Bars:<br/><i>Popsicles, yogurt pops, or pudding pops</i><br/>Fruit Flavored or Plain Gelatin</p> | <p><b><u>Juices</u></b><br/>Fruit Beverages that are <b>not</b> 100% Fruit Juice such as:<br/><i>Lemonade, orangeade, fruit drinks or beverages, blended juices, cocktails, nectars, powdered drinks, sport drinks, or energy/vitamin drinks</i></p> | <p><b><u>Vegetables</u></b><br/>Dehydrated Vegetables<br/><i>(Used for seasoning.)</i><br/>Home Canned Vegetables<br/><i>(For food safety reasons.)</i><br/>Hominy<br/>Pickle Relish<br/>Posole Corn<br/>Snack-Type Foods made from Vegetables such as Potato Chips/Sticks or Popcorn</p> |

| <b>Grains/Breads</b>   |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b><u>Dessert Items</u></b><br/>Brownies<br/>Cakes of any kind or Cupcakes<br/>Dessert Pie Crust served at Breakfast, Lunch or Supper<br/>Doughnuts<br/>Snack Cakes, Pre-Packaged such as: Twinkies™ and Little Debbie™</p> | <p><b><u>Snack Items</u></b><br/>Chips of any kind such as:<br/>Corn, Potato, Tortilla, or Grain-Based Snack Chips<br/>Corn Nuts<br/>Pork Rinds<br/>Popcorn</p> |

**Milk**

The only item that is creditable toward the milk component is fluid, fresh milk, either to drink or on cereal. *Non-dairy milk substitutes or creamers are not creditable as milk. Eggnog is not creditable as milk. Other dairy or milk-containing items such as powdered cocoa mixes, milkshakes, sour cream, cream cheese, or cream are not creditable as milk but may be used as "other" foods or meal enhancements.*

**Other**

*Condiments such as ketchup, mustard, barbeque sauce, chili sauce, salad dressing, jam, jelly, pickle relish, etc., may **not** be used toward the meal pattern requirements, but can be served as "extras". Items such as candy, coffee, gum, soda, tea are not creditable and should not be purchased or served, even as an "extra".*



# Non-Creditable/Non-Reimbursable Food List

If these items are purchased, their cost will **not** be considered an allowable food cost.

| GRAINS/BREADS   | MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATES   |
|---|--|
| <b><u>Dessert Items</u></b><br>Brownies<br>Cakes of any kind or Cupcakes<br>Doughnuts | <b><u>Meat Items</u></b><br>Hot Dogs or Frankfurters of any kind:<br><i>Chicken, beef, turkey, soy, or Vienna sausages</i><br>Processed Meat Items in a Can or Package:<br><i>Spam, deviled ham, potted meat, chicken spread, jerky, pork rinds, etc. that are not specifically listed in the USDA Food Buying Guide</i> |
| MILK  | OTHER  |
| Creamer, Non-Dairy<br>Eggnog  | Any Food Item Purchased for Staff Training or Consumption such as:<br>Candy      Coffee<br>Gum        Soda<br>Tea         Water  |

✓ **Please Note!** This list is designed to be used with the USDA Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs to determine the creditability of foods. It **does not** include every food that is non-creditable or non-reimbursable in the NM CACFP/SFSP.