CACFP Child Meal Pattern

Breakfast (All three components required for a reimbursable meal)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	³⁄₄ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Vegetables or Fruits (or portions of both)	1⁄4 cup	½ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents) Bread, Rolls, Muffins, Biscuits Ready-to-Eat Breakfast Cereal	⅓ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Flakes or Rounds Puffed Cereal Granola Cooked Cereals, Grains, Rice, Pastas	½ cup ¾ cup ⅓ cup ⅓ cup	½ cup ¾ cup ⅓ cup ¼ cup	1 cup 1 ¼ cup ¼ cup ½ cup	1 cup 1 ¼ cup ¼ cup ½ cup
Meat/Meat Alternates* *Optional, may be served in place of grain up to three times a week	½ oz eq*	½ oz eq*	1 oz eq*	1 oz eq*

^{**}At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters

Lunch and Supper (All five components required for a reimbursable meal)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	³⁄₄ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Meat/Meat Alternates	1 oz eq	1½ oz eq	2 oz eq	2 oz eq
Lean Meat, Poultry, Fish	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Cheese	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Egg	½ egg	¾ egg	1 egg	1 egg
Yogurt	½ cup	³⁄₄ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Cooked Beans	¼ cup	³⁄₃ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Tofu	1 oz	1½ oz	2 oz	2 oz
Nut or Seed Butters	2 Tbsp	3 Tbsp	4 Tbsp	4 Tbsp
Vegetables	⅓ cup	¼ cup	½ cup	½ cup
Fruits (or a second different vegetable)	⅓ cup	¼ cup	¼ cup	½ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents)				
Bread, Rolls, Muffins, Biscuits, Crackers, and other Bread Products	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Cooked Cereals, Grains, Rice, Pastas	⅓ cup	1⁄4 cup	½ cup	½ cup

^{**}At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters



Snack (Select two of the five components for a reimbursable snack)

Components and Food Items (Minimum quantities to meet meal pattern requirements)	Ages 1–2	Ages 3–5	Ages 6–12	Ages 13–18**
Fluid Milk	½ cup	½ cup	1 cup	1 cup
Meat/Meat Alternates	½ oz eq	⅓ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq
Vegetables	½ cup	½ cup	³⁄₄ cup	³⁄₄ cup
Fruits	½ cup	½ cup	³⁄₄ cup	³⁄₄ cup
Grains (in ounce equivalents)	½ oz eq	½ oz eq	1 oz eq	1 oz eq

^{**}At-Risk Afterschool Programs and Emergency Shelters

Reference

• 7 CFR 226.20(c)

Resources

- OSPI Child Nutrition Services CACFP Meal Pattern Trainings
- Meal Patterns and Menu Planning Webpage
- CACFP Requirements and Materials Webpage