

Implementation of the Interim Regulation  
Amending the Infant Meal Pattern

- PURPOSE:** To provide flexibility for local child caregivers and to ensure that the rule is implemented as equitably as possible based upon the December 15, 1999 effective date.
- SCOPE:** Licensed child care centers, registered day care ministries, Head Start centers, and family day care homes participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).
- DESCRIPTION:** The following schedule of effective dates has been authorized by USDA:
- Elimination of Cow's Milk for Older Infants* - Meal contents that children have become accustomed to should not be disrupted. Caregivers are authorized to continue serving whole cow's milk in lieu of breast milk or iron-fortified formula to any child between 8 months of age and one year of age who was already receiving whole cow's milk on or before December 14, 1999.
- Meals may not be claimed after April 14, 2000, for children between 8 months of age and one year of age who are served whole cow's milk in lieu of breast milk or iron-fortified infant formula.
- Reimbursement of Meals Containing only Breast Milk* - The provision became effective on December 15, 1999, however there are delays in informing caregivers of the changes. Caregivers may claim meals containing only breast milk retroactively to December 15, 1999. The final day to submit the retroactive December claim is March 31, 2000. Caregivers must have completed Infant Feeding Records on file in order to retroactively claim meals containing only breast milk
- Meals Containing Less Than the Minimum Regulatory Amount of Breast Milk* - Caregivers may claim meals containing less than the minimum regulatory amount of breast milk retroactively to December 15, 1999. The final day to submit the retroactive December claim is March 31, 2000. Caregivers must have completed Infant Feeding Records on file in order to retroactively claim meals containing less than the minimum regulatory amount of breast milk
- SOURCE:** USDA Memorandum dated December 14, 1999.