

CREDITING OF JUICE PRODUCTS IN CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

- PURPOSE:** To discuss the crediting of juice products in Child Nutrition Programs.
- SCOPE:** Child Care Centers, Day Care Ministries, Outside School Hours Centers, Head Start Centers, Adult Day Care Centers, and Family Day Care Homes.
- DESCRIPTION:** Juice products **DO NOT QUALIFY** for reimbursement as the fruit/vegetable component for breakfast, lunch, or supper for infants. **ONLY** full strength fruit juice is creditable as a snack for infants 8 through 11 months old.

For children 1 year through 4 years and grades K through 12, full-strength fruit or vegetable juice may be credited for all meals in the child nutrition programs when the following conditions are met:

1. In lunches and suppers, juice may meet not more than one-half of the minimum quantity requirements for the age being served.
2. As a supplement in the CACFP, juice may not be served when milk is the only other component of the supplement.

The following juice products are creditable as a fruit/vegetable component when these conditions are met:

1. **FULL-STRENGTH FRUIT OR VEGETABLE JUICE** is an undiluted product obtained by extraction of sound fruit. It may be fresh, frozen, canned, or reconstituted from concentrate and may be served in either liquid or frozen state or as an ingredient in a recipe.

The name of the full-strength fruit or vegetable juice as it appears on the label must include the word(s) "juice" or "full-strength juice" or "single strength juice" or "100 percent juice" or "reconstituted juice" or "juice from concentrate".

2. A **JUICE DRINK** is a product resembling juice which contains full-strength juice with added water and other ingredients such as

sweeteners, spices, or flavorings. A juice drink may be canned, frozen, or reconstituted from a frozen state or a drink base or as an ingredient in a recipe. A **juice drink** may be used to meet the fruit/vegetable component when the following conditions are met:

- a. It must contain a minimum of 50 percent full-strength juice.
- b. If 50 percent full-strength juice drinks are served, twice as much as required needs to be served to each person in order for the juice drink to be creditable.
- c. The name of the product as it appears on the label must contain words such as "juice drink" or "diluted juice beverage" and may indicate the percent of full-strength juice.
- d. The label ingredients must list "juice," "full-strength juice," "single-strength juice," "reconstituted juice," "juice from concentrate," or "juice concentrate."

3. A JUICE CONCENTRATE may be used to meet the fruit/vegetable component in the child nutrition programs. When a juice concentrate or a juice drink concentrate is used in its reconstituted form, it is considered a full-strength juice or a juice drink, as appropriate, and is credited accordingly.

SOURCE:

FNS Instruction Number 783-11, Rev. 1, Food and Consumer Service, August 17, 1995