

MEAL PATTERN EXCEPTION FORM

Sponsoring organizations that would like permission to serve meals outside of the Summer Food Service Program for Children (SFSP) Meal Pattern must submit this form for approval. You must receive State Agency permission before implementing any of the options described below.

Exceptions are given for one or more of the following reasons:

1. **Smaller Portions** - A sponsor may serve smaller portions of food to participating children less than six years of age. The sponsor must meet the meal pattern requirements for younger children established for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Sponsors wishing to serve smaller portions must demonstrate to the State Agency that they can control portion sizes and can ensure that the variations in the portion sizes are in accordance with the age levels of the children being served.

If your meal pattern exception request is based on smaller portions, you will be sent a copy of the Child and Adult Care Food Program Meal Requirements.

2. **Infant Meals** - Sponsors wishing to provide meals to infants one year of age and younger must receive prior approval from the State Agency. All meals served to infants must comply with infant meal pattern requirements in Section 226.20(b) of the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Please refer to the Meal Pattern Exception section of the *Administrative Guidance for Sponsors*.

3. **Use of Nonfat Dry Milk** - A sponsor may serve nonfat milk to children if, based on the activity the children will be participating in, the service of fluid whole milk would be impractical and the meal service would be in a location where fluid milk is unavailable. An example of such activity could be camping, or a field trip to an area where it would be difficult, if not impossible to bring and store fluid milk. When nonfat dry milk is used, the sponsor must ensure that the nonfat dry milk will be reconstituted at normal dilution and under sanitary conditions consistent with state and local health regulations. If given permission for a meal pattern exception based on the above criteria, the sponsor is still required to get permission for field trips from the State Agency.

If you believe you will need to make substitutions to the meal pattern based on Reason 4, a copy of FNS Instruction 783-2, which contains more information, will be sent to you.

4. **Substitutions for Medical or Special Dietary Reasons** - On a case by case basis, a sponsor must make meal substitutions for medical or special dietary reasons for disabled children and may make meal substitutions for medical or special dietary reasons for children without disabilities.

For disabled participants, the sponsor shall provide substitutions in foods only when a statement signed by a physician licensed by the state identifies: (1) the child's disability and an indication that the disability restricts the child's diet; (2) the major life activity affected by the disability; and (3) the food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet and the food or choice of foods that may be substituted.

For participants who are not disabled, the sponsor may provide substitutions in foods only when a statement signed by a recognized medical authority (e.g. physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner) includes: (1) an indication that the medical or other special dietary need restricts the child's diet; and (2) the food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet and the food or choice of foods that may be substituted.

5. **Variations in Meal Pattern Requirements for Jewish Schools and Institutions** - Sponsors of Jewish schools and institutions may be exempted from the meal pattern requirement that milk is to be served with all lunches and suppers. Sponsor may select a course of action from the following three options:

Option 1: The sponsor must serve an equal measure of full strength juice in place of milk with the meal.

Option 2: The sponsor must serve milk at an appropriate time before or after the meal service period, in accordance with applicable Jewish dietary laws.

Option 3: The sponsor must serve the juice component which would be part of the supplement (snack) with lunch or supper, and serve the milk component which would be part of the lunch or supper with the supplement (snack).

OPTION SELECTED:

6. Variation in the Meal Pattern Requirements for Seventh Day Adventist Institutions - Sponsors of Seventh Day Adventist Schools and institutions may use meat analogues (plant protein products at the 100 percent level) to meet the meat/meat alternate component of the SFSP Meal Pattern. If your meal pattern exception request is based on reason four, you will be sent a copy of FNS Instruction 783-14 which provides more information.

7. Meals Prepared by a School District - Sponsors may serve meals that meet the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) meal patterns, rather than the SFSP meal pattern. If the sponsor is a school district or is a non-school sponsor, but purchases its meals from a school district, it can serve meals meeting the same meal patterns that were used in the NSLP and SBP during the school year. If you would like meals using the NSLP or SBP meal patterns, check the appropriate box below. Note that the school sponsor or vendor who want to use this option must use the **SAME EXACT** meal patterns during the summer that it used during the past school year.

Types of school meal patterns that are used during the school year and will continue to be used during the summer and which meal these patterns are used for:

- | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Standard Menu Planning (NSMP or NuMenus) | <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Supper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assisted Nutrient Standard Menu Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Supper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced Food Based Menu Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Supper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional Food Based Menu Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Supper |
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8. Fruit/Vegetable Option - We plan to give children the option of leaving the site with a fruit/vegetable item to eat later. We will train our children and the site staff that only a fruit/vegetable item can be taken from the site. If other items are taken from the site, we understand the meal is not reimbursable. Yes No

I would like permission to use a meal pattern different from the standard SFSPC meal pattern. I am requesting exception(s) # _____. I understand that if I am given permission to use a different meal pattern, I am still responsible for meeting all other SFSPC requirements, policies, instructions, handbooks, Food Buying Guide, etc. concerning what constitutes a reimbursable meal.

Signature of Sponsor Representative: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Agreement Number: _____ Date: _____

State Agency Review of Meal Pattern Exception Request: Approved Denied

Reason if denied _____

State Agency Representative Signature: _____ Date: _____
