

Crediting of Commercially Prepared Baby Food Containing Modified Food Starch (MFS)

**PURPOSE:** This instruction sets forth the policy concerning the crediting of commercial baby food containing modified food starch (MFS).

**SCOPE:** Sponsors and sites participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

**DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of this instruction is to clarify the crediting of commercially prepared baby foods which containing added modified food starch, specifically baby food fruits with added modified food starch (MFS), including modified corn starch and modified tapioca starch.

According to the Nutrition and Technical Services Division, commercially prepared baby foods with added MFS are **not creditable** toward the infant meal pattern due to the following:

1. Commercial baby foods with added MFS contain, on the average, lower amounts of most key nutrients.
2. Many commercial baby foods with added MFS contain a concentrated sweetener such as sugar or high fructose corn syrup.
3. Baby foods with MFS are considered "combination baby foods." Combination foods and mixed dinners are not creditable in part because they generally have less nutritional value by weight than single ingredient foods.

**SOURCE:** FNS Memo, Dated October 12, 1994, United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.