



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Sponsors of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs

**FROM:** Cheryl Resha, Education Manager *Cheryl Resha*  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

**DATE:** July 16, 2012

**SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #34-12**  
Separation of Vegetables/Fruits in the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs*

The *Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs* final rule was published on January 26, 2012. The final rule requires that fruits and vegetables be offered as separate meal components in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. This provision requires schools to offer all the vegetable subgroups identified by the 2010 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* over the course of the week in minimum required quantities as part of the lunch menus effective July 1, 2012, (school year 2012-13).

The revised Vegetables and Fruits section of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs* addresses the new meal pattern requirements for the school meal programs by separating the Vegetables/Fruits section into two distinct subsections: Vegetables and Fruits. In addition, the revised vegetable subsection labels each vegetable with its appropriate vegetable subgroup (red/orange, dark green, beans and peas, starchy or other) to assist school food authorities with meeting the new meal pattern. The revised Vegetables and Fruits section of the *Food Buying Guide* can be accessed online at <http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov/resources/foodbuyingguide.html>.

Questions may be directed to:

COUNTY ASSIGNMENTS	CONSULTANT	E-MAIL	PHONE
Litchfield County New London County	Fionnuala Brown	<a href="mailto:fionnuala.brown@ct.gov">fionnuala.brown@ct.gov</a>	860-807-2129
Fairfield County Middlesex County (towns/cities beginning with C-E) New Haven County (towns/cities beginning with A-M)	Jackie Schipke	<a href="mailto:jackie.schipke@ct.gov">jackie.schipke@ct.gov</a>	860-807-2123
Middlesex County (towns/cities beginning with F-W) Tolland County Windham County	Susan Alston	<a href="mailto:susan.alston@ct.gov">susan.alston@ct.gov</a>	860-807-2081
Hartford County New Haven County (towns/cities beginning with N-W)	Teri Dandeneau	<a href="mailto:teri.dandeneau@ct.gov">teri.dandeneau@ct.gov</a>	860-807-2079

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**Important:** This is a numbered Operational Memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for your future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition Web site: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=320676>