

Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Noncreditable foods are foods and beverages that cannot credit in the USDA’s meal patterns for Child Nutrition Programs. For information on the SFSP meal patterns, see the Connecticut State Department of Education’s (CSDE) handout, [SFSP Meal Patterns](#).

Examples of noncreditable foods include potato chips, pudding, ice cream, gelatin, cream cheese, bacon, condiments (e.g., syrup, jam, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and butter), and water. The chart below lists additional examples of noncreditable foods for the SFSP. This list is not all-inclusive.

SFSP sponsors may serve noncreditable foods in addition to the meal components to add variety, help improve acceptability in the meal, and satisfy appetites. Some examples include maple syrup on pancakes, salad dressing on tossed greens, and condiments such as ketchup or mustard on sandwiches and other entrees.

To ensure that SFSP meals meet children’s nutritional needs, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) encourages SFSP sponsors to use discretion when serving noncreditable foods. Noncreditable foods typically contain few nutrients and are higher in added sugars, saturated fats, and sodium. Menu planners should read labels, be aware of the ingredients in foods, and limit the frequency and amount of less nutritious choices. For information on crediting foods in SFSP meals and snacks, visit the Crediting Foods section of the [SFSP Documents/Forms](#) webpage.

Examples of noncreditable foods for the SFSP	
Almond milk ¹	Dehydrated vegetables used for seasoning
Bacon and bacon bits	Drinkable or squeezable yogurt
Banana chips	Eggnog
Bread products that are not whole or enriched	Egg whites
Butter	Frozen yogurt
Candy ²	Fruit drink, fruit beverage, powdered fruit drink mix ⁴
Candy-coated popcorn ²	Fruit leathers
Chili sauce	Fruit punch (not 100 percent juice) ²
Chocolate milk-based drinks, e.g., Yoo-Hoo	Fruit snacks, e.g., fruit roll-ups, wrinkles, and twists
Coffee (regular, decaffeinated, and iced) ²	Gelatin, regular and sugar free
Condiments, e.g., ketchup, mustard, relish, barbecue sauce	Grains that are not whole or enriched
Cranberry cocktail drink ²	Honey
Cream, half and half	Hot chocolate
Cream cheese	Ice cream
Cream soups, canned, e.g., cream of mushroom, cream of celery, cream of broccoli	

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Examples of noncreditable foods for the SFSP, continued

Ice cream novelties	Rice milk
Ice milk	Salad dressings
Iced coffee ²	Sherbet
Iced tea ²	Soda, regular and diet ²
Imitation cheese	Soups, non-vegetable, canned, e.g., beef barley, beef noodle, turkey or chicken noodle, and turkey or chicken rice
Jam	Sour cream
Jelly	Soy milk that does not meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes ¹
Ketchup	Sports drinks ⁴
Lemonade ²	Spreadable fruit
Limeade ⁴	Syrup
Maple syrup	Tea (regular, herbal, and iced) ²
Margarine	Tofu with less than 5 grams of protein in 2.2 ounces (weight) or 1/4 cup (volume) ³
Marshmallows	Water
Mayonnaise	White rice, unenriched
Mustard	Yogurt or soy yogurt in commercial smoothies
Nectar drinks ⁴	
Nondairy milk that does not meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes ²	
Pickle relish	
Popsicles (not 100 percent juice)	
Potato chips	
Pudding	
Pudding pops	

¹ Milk substitutes must meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes. For more information, see the CSDE's handout, [Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs](#).

² If the SFSP operates on school premises, Sections 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies prohibits selling and giving these competitive foods to students. For more information, see the CSDE's handout, [Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations](#), and visit the CSDE's webpages, [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) and [Beverage Requirements](#).

³ For more information, see the CSDE's handout, [Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the NSLP and SBP](#).



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Resources

Administrative Guidance for SFSP Sponsors (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP_Admin_Guide_Sept2016.pdf

Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Milksub.pdf>

Child Nutrition (CN) Labeling Program (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CNlabel.pdf>

Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/CTCompFoodRegulation.pdf>

Crediting Foods section of the SFSP Documents/Forms webpage

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Summer-Food-Service-Program/Documents> :

Crediting Foods for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs>

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditTofu.pdf>

Crediting Whole Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditWholeGrains.pdf>

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>

Menu Planning for Child Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Menu-Planning>

Nutrition Guidance for SFSP Sponsors (USDA):

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/NutritionGuide.pdf>

Product Formulation Statements (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/PFS.pdf>

SFSP Meal Pattern (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SFSP/MealPattern/SFSPMealPattern.pdf>

SFSP website (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Summer-Food-Service-Program>

SFSP website (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program>

USDA Memo SP 08-2019 CACFP 02-2019 SFSP 02-2019: Update of Food Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/update-food-crediting-child-nutrition-programs>

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For more information on the SFSP, visit the CSDE's [SFSP](#) website or contact Caroline Cooke at caroline.cooke@ct.gov or 860-807-2144, Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SFSP/MealPattern/NoncredSFSP.pdf>.

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- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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