



Food and
Nutrition
Service

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DATE: October 22, 2020

SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Revised Food Package Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
MARO, MPRO, MWRO,
NERO, SERO, SWRO, and
WRO

State Directors
CSFP State Agencies
All Participating States

Issuing Agency/Office:	FNS/Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs
Title of Document:	Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Revised Food Package Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates
Document ID:	
Z-RIN:	
Date of Issuance:	October 22, 2020
Replaces:	Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Delayed Implementation of Revised Food Package Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates
Summary:	<i>This updated Distribution Rates includes new CSFP USDA Food items and removes the guide rate attachment for children, who were phased out of CSFP in February 2020, as directed by the 2014 Farm Bill. With this update, the Distribution Rates have been simplified and pared down to one attachment.</i>
Disclaimer:	The contents of this guidance document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.
Body of guidance document follows.	

Per program regulations at 7 CFR 247.10(a), CSFP local agencies must distribute food packages to CSFP participants every month (or bi-monthly) in accordance to the CSFP guide rate established by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The attached Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates (Distribution Rates or guide rate) revises those previously issued by FNS on October 25, 2019. These revised Distribution Rates (Attachment A), are updated as follows:

- Adds the new package size and formulation for Beef Chili with Beans (15 oz);
- Removes the larger package size for nonfat dried milk (25.6 oz);

- Removes the Distribution Rates for children (previously Attachment A.1), as this population is no longer eligible for CSFP;
- Removes the October 2018 and February 2020 Distribution Rates (previously Attachment A.3 and B) and the Allowable Substitutions (previously Attachment C), as these attachments are no longer applicable.

The new package size and formulation for chili is the result of the ongoing efforts to enhance the CSFP Food Package based on stakeholder feedback. The new formulation includes a mix of beans and ground beef and has a lower sodium profile than the current chili. Additionally, the chili is available in a smaller package size (15 oz) to achieve additional variety in the meat, poultry, and fish category and better meet the needs of small households. Please note, the 24 oz canned chili is being phased out and should be distributed to households until inventory is depleted.

Please note, some foods in the food package may be unavailable due to changing agricultural market conditions. This may impact the choices listed within the Food Package Categories. State agencies must closely monitor their inventories and ensure they are ordering only what is needed to maintain one to no more than three months of inventory.

State agency staff who have questions may contact their respective FNS Regional Offices, who may in turn contact the National Office.

/Signature on File

Laura Castro
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment

Attachment A

**COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
MAXIMUM MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION RATES**

Effective October 1, 2020

Food Package Category	Food Item	Amount Each Month
Fruits and Juice	Canned Fruit (15.5 oz) Juice (64 oz) Raisins (15 oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 juice and 3 cans fruit; or • 2 juices and 2 cans fruit; or • 1 package raisins, 1 juice, and 2 cans fruit; or • 1 package raisins, 2 juices and 1 can fruit.
Vegetables	Canned Vegetables or Soup (10.5 to 15.5 oz) Dehydrated Potatoes (1 lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 cans vegetables or soup; or • 6 cans vegetables or soup, and 1 package dehydrated potatoes.
Cheese	Cheese (2 lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 package cheese.
Milk	UHT Fluid Milk 1% (32 oz) Instant Nonfat Dry Milk (12.8 oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 UHT milk; or • 1 UHT milk and 1 (12.8 oz) Nonfat Dry Milk
Meat, Poultry, and Fish	Beef, Beef Stew, or Chili* (24 oz) Chicken (10 to 15 oz) Beef Chili with Beans (15 oz) Tuna (12 oz) Salmon (14.75 oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 (24 oz) shelf-stable package meat and 1 (10 to 15 oz) shelf-stable package beef, poultry or fish; or • 3 (10 to 15 oz) shelf-stable packages beef, poultry and/or fish of any combination.
Plant-Based Protein	Canned Beans (15.5 oz) Dry Beans or Lentils (1 to 2* lb) Peanut Butter (16 to 18* oz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 units of any combination of canned beans, (1 lb) dry beans or lentils, and peanut butter; or • 1 (2* lb) unit dry beans or lentils, and 1 unit of canned beans, peanut butter, or (1 lb) dry beans or lentils.
Cereals	Cereal, Dry Ready-to-Eat, (12 to 18 oz) Farina (18 oz) Rolled Oats (18 to 48* oz) Grits (2 to 5* lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 units of any combination of cereal, farina, (18 oz) rolled oats, and (2 lb) grits; or • 1 (42* to 48* oz) unit rolled oats; or • 1 (5* lb) unit grits (every other month).
Pasta and Rice	Pasta (1 lb) Rice (1 to 2* lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 units of any combination of pasta and (1 lb) rice; or • 1 (2* lb) unit rice

* Indicates larger package size or product which is being phased out of the food package.