



Food and
Nutrition
Service

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DATE: April 19, 2022

SUBJECT: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Revised Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates to Return to Full Vegetable Issuance

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

State Directors
CSFP State Agencies
All Current and New States

Issuing Agency/Office:	Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
Title of Document:	Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Revised Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates to Return to Full Vegetable Issuance
Document ID:	
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Date of Issuance:	April 19, 2022
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Summary:	This memorandum provides guidance on the return to full issuance of Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) food packages due to improvements in vendors' ability to supply canned vegetables.
<i>Body of guidance document follows.</i>	

Guide Rate Change

Since December 2020, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) has been experiencing product shortages due to ongoing issues with vendors' ability to supply some products. Canned vegetables were the most severely impacted. To address this issue, on February 26, 2021, FNS temporarily reduced the quantity of vegetables offered in the CSFP Maximum Monthly Distribution Rates, or Guide Rates, from 8 cans to 4 cans. Due to improving market conditions and the replenishment of vegetable inventories, FNS raised the temporary issuance to 6 cans on November 1, 2021. As conditions further improve, FNS is now in a position, effective May 1, 2022, to **return to the full issuance of 8 units of vegetables or soup for May 2022 distributions and beyond.** Attachment A provides the current Guide Rate for CSFP to be implemented on May 1, 2022.

As a reminder, the vegetable category distribution options are either:

1. 8 units of vegetables or soup, or
 2. 6 units of vegetables/soup and 1 package of dehydrated potatoes
- *Large can-size vegetables (16 oz. and greater) count as two vegetables in the Guide Rate.

While we encourage States and ITOs to issue the full 8 unit vegetable/soup category issuance to the greatest extent possible, to minimize program burden, any food packages that have already been pre-packed per the previous Guide Rate (effective February 26, 2021), may be distributed to CSFP participants without modification. However, May 2022 food packages packed after the issuance of this memorandum must be packed according to the Distribution Rates in Attachment A.

Temporary CSFP Product Purchases

Consistent with current FNS policy, some foods in the food package may be unavailable from time to time due to changing agricultural market conditions. This may impact the choices listed within the Food Package Categories. To alleviate recent vegetable product shortages, FNS has been purchasing a variety of vegetables not typically available in the CSFP package. To enable FNS to supply sufficient vegetables nationally to meet the full food package issuance rate, these alternative vegetable options will continue to be purchased for the time being. Depending on changes in the market, FNS may also need to purchase other products not usually offered.

Attachment B includes guidance on how to distribute these temporary products and will be updated on an as-needed basis when additional products are purchased.

We appreciate your assistance during this temporary shortage and your work to ensure CSFP participants continue to receive the needed food assistance during this time.

/s/ Original Signature on File

Laura Castro
Director
Food Distribution Division

Attachment A

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

Effective May 1, 2022 until Further Notice

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

Attachment B¹

Temporary Food Options

The following tables provide details on how to incorporate the temporary CSFP products and sizes into the Distribution Rates.

For the following temporary vegetable products, one product unit should be issued as one can of vegetables under the Distribution Rates.

Temporary Products 1 can = 1 can of Vegetables	
Product	Material Code
Peas W/O Salt Can 12/15 Oz	111376
Tomatoes/Okra & Corn Can 12/15 Oz	111396
Okra Cut Can 12/14.5 Oz	111395
Beans Green Cut Can 24/14.5 Oz	111391
Beans Green French Can 24/14.5 Oz	111392
Corn Fresh Cut Kernel Can 24/15.25 Oz	111394
Collard Greens NSA Can 12/14 Oz	111425
Cut Green Beans 12/14.4 Oz	111426
Cut Italian Green Beans 24/14.5 Oz	111481
Low Sodium Collards 12/14 Oz	111484
Low Sodium Kale Greens 12/14.5 Oz	111483
Low Sodium Mixed Greens 12/14.5 Oz	111472
Mixed Vegetables 12/15 Oz	111491
Whole Green Beans 24/14.5 Oz	111490
Whole Kernel Gold Corn 12/15.25 oz	111470

¹ Updated Attachment B as of April 19, 2022. Attachment B will be updated on an as-needed basis as new products are purchased.

For the following temporary vegetable products, one product unit should be issued as two cans of vegetables under the Distribution Rates.¹

Temporary Products 1 can/pouch = 2 cans of Vegetables	
Product	Material Code
Beans Green Cut & Potatoes Can 12/38 Oz	111398
Sweet Potatoes Can 12/40 Oz	111399
Sweet Potatoes Can 29 Oz	111400
Mixed Vegetables Can 12/29 Oz	111401
Spaghetti Sauce Pouch 20/28 Oz	111402
Beans Green Can 12/38 Oz	111397
Mixed Vegetables 12/29 Oz	111480

¹ Updated Attachment B as of April 19, 2022. Attachment B will be updated on an as-needed basis as new products are purchased.