



TODD STAPLES, COMMISSIONER

SUPPLEMENT

Date: August 02, 2011

Reference: # FBG 2011-01

To: All Holders of the Food Buying Guide (FBG)

Subject: Shelf-stable, Dried Snacks Made from Meat, Poultry or Seafood

Effective Date: Immediately

Purpose

This Food Buying Guide (FBG) Supplement is to remind Contracting Entities (CEs) that shelf-stable, dry or semi-dry meat snacks are not creditable in any meal served under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs. Please place this FBG Supplement in Section 1, Meat/Meat Alternates, of the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs*.

Implementation

Immediately

Non-Creditable Shelf-stable Meat Snacks

Non-creditable meat snacks can include, but are not limited to, the following products:

- Smoked snack sticks made with beef and chicken;
- Summer sausage;
- Pepperoni sticks;
- Meat, poultry or seafood jerky such as beef jerky, turkey jerky and salmon jerky; and
- Meat or poultry nuggets (shelf-stable, non-breaded, dried meat or poultry snack made similar to jerky) such as turkey nuggets.

The shelf-stable, dried meal, poultry and seafood snacks do **not** meet the usual and customary function of the meat/meat alternate component as either an entrée or side dish of a meal.

Also, dried meat, poultry or seafood snacks **do not** qualify for the Child Nutrition (CN) Labeling Program because they **cannot** contribute to the meat component of a reimbursable meal. Fact sheets or company certified product formulation statements **should not** be accepted for these products.

continued

This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice

Creditable Meat Snacks

While the above mentioned snacks cannot contribute as a creditable component in a reimbursable meal, there are some meat stick type products that **can** be used in a reimbursable meal. The following are examples of meat stick products that may be counted as a creditable meat/meat alternate component in a reimbursable meal with a CN Label or company certified product formulation statement:

1. Cooked, cured meat and/or poultry sausages excluding byproducts, cereals, binders or extenders such as Bologna, Frankfurters, Knockwurst and Vienna Sausage as are listed on pages 1-36 and 1-37 of the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs*.
2. Finger-food types of shelf-stable sticks, usually packed in water, with a parenthetical product name such as “chicken strips packed in water”, are creditable when offered on the CACFP meal patterns for children one and older, and when made without byproducts, cereals, binders or extenders. These products are similar to Vienna Sausage. They are **not** creditable on the CACFP Infant Meal Pattern (ages 0-12 months).
3. Extended meat or poultry “patty-like” products shaped into sticks which are usually breaded and either frozen or refrigerated; and
4. Dried pepperoni when used as a topping on a CN Labeled pizza.

Contact

If you have any questions please contact your Community Operations Office.
