

Offer vs Serve Policy for Lunch

A school lunch eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer 5 food components (milk, fruit, vegetables, grains, meat/meat alternatives). Students are allowed to decline 2 of the 5 required food components, but must select at least $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of either a fruit (or fruit combination) or a vegetable (or vegetable combination) or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fruit/vegetable combination. After selecting the $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fruit or vegetable requirement, students must select at least 2 additional full components in the full amounts to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal. The student's decision to accept all 5 components or to decline 2 components shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The lunch is priced as a unit. Offer versus serve is the policy in all school cafeterias.