



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**FOOD SERVICE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY No. 8  
SCHOOL YEAR 2014-2015**

**SUBJECT:** Minimum Creditable Serving Size for Fruit and Vegetable Components is One-eighth of a Cup

**DATE:** August 27, 2014

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) updated meal requirements for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. This legislation marked the most comprehensive changes to the school nutrition environment in more than a generation and required the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to update school meal nutrition standards to reflect the most current dietary science.

Schools must plan menus that meet meal pattern and dietary specifications. As components of the required meal pattern, fruits and vegetables play a key role in meeting the food and nutrition requirements specified by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. As a result, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has issued this policy memo, which replaces MDE Administrative Policy #8, School Year 2004-2005. The MDE recommendation for minimum quantity that may be credited towards the vegetable and fruit components is one-eighth of a cup, which now aligns with the current USDA recommendations. The one-eighth cup minimum quantity will allow School Food Authorities (SFAs) to credit these components in manufactured products with Child Nutrition (CN) Labels which indicate one-eighth cup amounts of vegetable subgroups. This flexibility will also allow SFAs to credit fruit and vegetable components when they are listed in one-eighth cup amounts in USDA, Team Nutrition, and other standardized recipes.

Points to remember:

- Raw, leafy salad greens credit at half the volume served.
  - ✓ If  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of lettuce is served, it credits as  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup.
- Dried fruit credits at twice the volume served.
  - ✓ If  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of raisins is served, it credits as  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup.

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- Juice credits as actual volume served.
- CN Labeled products that include vegetable crediting information will credit as per the CN label.
  - ✓ A slice of pizza for which the CN label states it credits as  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup red/orange vegetable would credit as  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup red/orange vegetable subgroup.

*The Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs* has information to assist SFAs in purchasing the right amount of food and the appropriate type of food when planning menus. It also indicates the specific contribution each food makes toward the meal pattern requirements.

The USDA nutrition standards for school meals can be found at 7 CFR Parts 210 and 220. Questions regarding this Administrative Policy may be directed to the School Nutrition Programs unit by e-mail to [MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov).