



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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**FISCAL YEAR 2008  
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM  
OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM #8**

**TO:** Child and Adult Care Food Program Institutions

**FROM:** Mary Ann Chartrand, Director  
Grants Coordination and School Support

**DATE:** February 21, 2008

**SUBJECT: Crediting of Cornmeal and Corn Flour for Grains/Breads Component**

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) received clarification from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding crediting cornmeal and corn flour components. This information is outlined below.

To be credited as a grains/breads component for the CACFP, grain products must be enriched or whole-grain, or made from enriched or whole-grain meal and/or flour. Bran and germ are credited the same as enriched or whole-grain meal or flour.

For a number of years, the Child Nutrition Programs allowed cornmeal and corn flour to be counted as a whole grain for crediting grains/breads. This is because the standard of identity for "cornmeal" and "corn flour" was interpreted as yielding a whole grain.

On February 17, 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a draft guidance entitled *Whole Grain Label Statements* that contained the following statement: "Degerminated and bolted cornmeals should not be considered whole grain products because germ or bran has been removed during processing. Because the rest of the meal [flour] standards allow removal of some of the hull, these also should not be considered whole grain products." This clarification by FDA of the standards of identity for "cornmeal" and "corn flour" indicates that these products should no longer be considered as whole grains for the Child Nutrition Programs.

Therefore, beginning July 1, 2008, to be credited toward meeting meal pattern requirements, corn must be labeled as:

1. "whole corn" (or other "whole" corn designations, such as whole grain corn, whole ground corn, whole cornmeal, whole corn flour, etc.), or
2. "enriched" corn (or other "enriched" corn designations, such as enriched yellow cornmeal, enriched corn flour, enriched corn grits, etc.).

Please implement this requirement as soon as possible, but no later than July 1, 2008, to ensure the children receive more nutritious grains/breads products.

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