

**Michigan Department of Education
Child and Adult Care Food Program**

Non-Creditable Infant Foods

The foods listed below do not contribute toward the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal pattern requirements for infants (children 0 through 11 months of age) or are not recommended for infants by the USDA. Use of a product brand name is not an endorsement, but is used for clarity in this handout.

Cereals/Grains

- Commercial pre-mixed baby food cereal (in jars)
- Commercial iron fortified dry infant cereal containing fruit
- Cooked breakfast cereals that do not meet the sugar limit of 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce
- Ready-to-eat (RTE) cold breakfast cereals that do not meet the sugar limit of 6 grams of sugar per dry ounce (allowed at snack only)
- Pasta
- Rice
- Breads, RTE cereals and crackers made with unenriched flours or vegetable flours
- Grain-based desserts such as cake, cookies, pastry, granola or cereal bars, etc.

Fruit/Vegetable

- Commercial combination baby food dinners
- Commercial baby food desserts or puddings
- Commercial baby food fruit or vegetable with "water" as the first ingredient
- Fruit and/or vegetable juice
- Fruit "drinks"

Iron-fortified Infant Formula/Breast Milk Substitutes

- Buttermilk
 - Evaporated milk
 - Hot chocolate, chocolate milk
 - Low-iron infant formula*
 - Fluid cow's milk (any fat percentage) *
- * Requires approved Request for Special Dietary Needs Accommodations form and Formula/Food Sign-Off Statement on file listing this specific food as a substitute.

Meat/Meat Alternates

- Canned fish with bones
- Commercial combination baby food dinners
- Peanut butter and other nut or seed butters (choking hazard)
- Commercial yogurt that does not meet sugar limit of 23 grams per 6 ounces
- Commercial Tofu
- Commercial soy yogurt
- Homemade yogurt
- Cheese food
- Cheese Spread

Other foods

- Chocolate; candy
- Home-canned infant foods
- Honey (includes commercially prepared foods such as graham crackers and RTE cereals)

Not Recommended*

- Processed meats and poultry
- Infant meat/poultry sticks
- Hot dogs
- Fish sticks

*These foods are higher in sodium, byproducts, fillers and extenders. They also pose a choking hazard. If served, must be prepared in a way to reduce choking hazard.