

OSPI Summer Food Service Offer vs Serve (OVS)

Offer Versus Serve (OVS) is an optional tool that only Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) can choose to implement, allowing children to decline some of the food items offered in a reimbursable breakfast, lunch/supper, as long as minimum servings are met. OVS is not allowed at snack. OVS reduces waste and costs while offering balanced meals and giving children food choices they like. Children can choose all items during a meal if they wish. OVS must be approved by OSPI before it can be implemented, and Canvas online training must be completed.

Terms to Know:

- **The 4 Food Components:** Milk, fruits/vegetables, grains, meat/meat alternate.
- **Food Item:** A specific food offered within a component; apples and pears are both items in fruit/vegetables component.

SFSP OVS Meal Requirements	
Breakfast:	
Must offer the 3 required components and 4 food items:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One serving of fruit/vegetable 2. One serving of grains 3. One serving of milk 4. One additional food item from any of the food component groups: fruit/vegetable, Grains, or meat/meat alternate (M/MA) 	
A child must choose 3 different food items for the meal to be reimbursable. Food items must be different from each other. E.g. two types of cereals are the same food item.	
Example Breakfast	
Reimbursable Menu: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 slice of Toast • ½ cup Cereal • ½ cup Peaches • 8oz Milk 	A child can select: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toast, Peaches, Milk • Cereal, Peaches, Milk • Toast, Cereal, Peaches • Toast, Cereal, Milk <p><u>Combinations of 2 items or less are not reimbursable</u></p>
Reimbursable Menu with Combination Food: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast Pizza* 1oz grain, 1oz M/MMA • 8oz Milk • ½ Cup Strawberries 	A child can select: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast pizza, milk • Breakfast pizza, Strawberries <p><u>Pizza counts as 2 items because it is a combination food from two different components (*CN label required)</u></p>
Non-Reimbursable Menu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 slices of toast • ½ cup of pineapple • 1 cup of milk 	<p>Two pieces of toast are in the same food item; 4 different items must be offered</p>



Lunch or Supper:

Must **offer 4 required components and 5 food items:**

1. One serving of **meat/meat alternate (M/MA)**
2. Two different food items of **fruits/vegetables (totaling 3/4 cup or more)**
3. One serving of **grains**
4. One serving of **milk**

A child must select at **least 3 different food components** for the meal to be reimbursable. Food items must be different from each other. E.g. Pear and Apples are not identical, they are the same food item.

Example Lunch/Supper

Reimbursable Menu:

- ½ cup Beans (M/MA)
- 2oz Roasted Chicken
- ½ cup Rice
- ½ cup Broccoli*
- ½ cup Apple Slices*
- 8oz Milk

*Fruit/Vegetable are considered one component.

A child can select:

- Chicken, Rice, Broccoli
- Beans, Apple Slices, Milk
- Chicken, Broccoli, Milk
- Beans, Rice, Broccoli

NOT reimbursable:

- Broccoli, Apple Slices and Milk, only 2 components selected.
- Combinations of 2 items or less

Note Beans are marked as M/MA cannot be counted as a vegetable.

Reimbursable Menu with Combination Food:

- PBJ Sandwich (2oz grain, 2oz M/MA)
- ½ cup Broccoli*
- ½ cup Oranges*
- 8oz of Milk

*Fruit/Vegetable are considered one component.

A child can select:

- PBJ Sandwich, Milk
- PBJ Sandwich, Oranges
- PBJ Sandwich, Broccoli

Sandwich counts as 2 components, grain and meat/meat alternate

NOT reimbursable: Broccoli, Oranges and Milk
Only 2 components were selected

Resources:

[SFSP Meal Service Guide,](#)

[Summer Toolkit: Offer Versus Serve](#)

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