

Offer versus Serve (OVS) Signage at Breakfast

The School Breakfast Program Meal Pattern offers menu planners flexibility when it comes to planning grain and meat/meat alternate options to meet the daily and weekly requirements. When operating Offer Versus Serve, students have to option to decline some of the food offered, as long as they have 3 items on their tray, and one item is ½ cup of fruit. Menu planners choose how they will define items, and the key to successfully operating OVS at breakfast is communicating to students what makes up a reimbursable meal. The Arizona Department of Education has developed examples of OVS signage based on the different planning options available to menu planners.

	Grains	Fruit	Milk	Example Reimbursable Meals	Total Items on Tray
<p>Option 1 The menu planner plans all grains and meat/meat alternates as 1 oz eq and count them each as 1 item.</p>	2 grain items offered	1 fruit item offered	1 milk item offered	Granola bar, applesauce and milk	3 items
	 Granola Bar 1 oz eq = 1 item Small Muffin 1 oz eq = 1 item	 ½ cup applesauce	 1 cup variety of milk	Small muffin, applesauce and milk	3 items
				Granola bar, small muffin, and applesauce	3 items
				Granola bar, small muffin, applesauce and milk	4 items
<p>Option 2 Plan all grain and meat/meat alternates as 2 oz eq and count them all as 2 items.</p>	4 grain items offered	1 fruit item offered	1 milk item offered	Burrito, and applesauce	3 items
	 Burrito 2 oz eq = 2 items Large Muffin 2 oz eq = 2 items	 ½ cup applesauce	 1 cup variety of milk	Large muffin and applesauce	3 items
				Burrito, applesauce and milk	4 items
				Large muffin, applesauce and milk	4 items
<p>Option 3 Plan grains and meat/meat alternates as 1 or 2 oz eq and count them accordingly.</p>	3 grain items offered	1 fruit item offered	1 milk item offered	Sausage biscuit, and applesauce	3 items
	 Sausage Biscuit 2 oz eq = 2 items Small Muffin 1 oz eq = 1 item	 ½ cup applesauce	 1 cup variety of milk	Small muffin, applesauce, and milk	3 items
				Sausage biscuit, small muffin, and applesauce	4 items
				Sausage biscuit, applesauce and milk	4 items