



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOTE

No. 03-11

Bureau of School Business Services
FOOD AND NUTRITION MANAGEMENT

Contact:
Emily Laymon

Jim Horne, Commissioner

(800) 504-6609
(850) 488-4192

DATE: March 10, 2003

TO: Sponsors of the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and After School Snack Programs

FROM: Milton T. Tankersley, Administrator
Food and Nutrition Management

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Milton T. Tankersley", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

SUBJECT: Request for Use of In-house Product Yield Data for Meal Preparation

Since the release of the new USDA Food Buying Guide, Food and Nutrition Management has received several inquiries from program sponsors regarding the product yield information listed for a variety of food products. Many program sponsors have stated that they are consistently getting higher or lower yields from products than yields specified by the Food Buying Guide. The USDA has issued guidance to allow program sponsors to use their own in-house product yield data with approval from Food and Nutrition Management.

Many factors affect product yield, including:

- ◆ The quality and condition of the food bought
- ◆ Storage conditions and handling
- ◆ Equipment used in preparation
- ◆ Cooking method and time
- ◆ The form in which the food is served (i.e., mashed potatoes, baked potatoes)
- ◆ The serving utensils and portion control methods used

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In order to receive approval to use in-house product yield data, program sponsors must complete the ***In-house Yield Data Usage Request*** form and submit it to Food and Nutrition Management, Healthy Meals Team, prior to implementation. The following information must be submitted to support the in-house product yields to be reviewed:

- ◆ Product Type
- ◆ Product Manufacturer
- ◆ Product Quality/Grade
- ◆ Product Unit/Weight/Size
- ◆ Product Yield per Unit
- ◆ Food Buying Guide Unit/Weight/Size
- ◆ Food Buying Guide Yield per Unit
- ◆ Cooking Method Used
- ◆ Cooking Time/Duration
- ◆ Serving Utensil Type/Size

When Food and Nutrition Management receives your request, it will be reviewed for approval. If approved, documentation will be kept on file in the Food and Nutrition Management office. In addition, a copy of the approval will be sent to the district school food service director with a request that a copy of the approval be kept on file at the actual school site where the product yield data will be utilized. If your request is denied, you will receive written notification of this action.

Once approval is granted, it is not necessary to request approval each year for the same product if the conditions upon which the approval was initially granted remain unchanged. However, if the conditions change, another request must be submitted.

To request a copy of the ***In-house Yield Data Usage Request*** form, call Emily Laymon, Food and Nutrition Management, Healthy Meals Team at 1-800-504-6609 or email your request to emily.laymon@fldoe.org.

MTT/IW/set