



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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**Brian P. Kemp**  
Governor

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Institutions and Sponsors Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

From: Sonja R. Adams, Director of Provider Services – Nutrition (*Original Signed*)

Date: May 17, 2019

Subject: Crediting Shelf-Stable, Dried and Semi-Dried Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Products in the CNPs

Legal Authority: USDA Policy Memorandum SP21-2019, CACFP 08-2019, SFSP 07-2019, April 17, 2019; and SP 08-2019, CACFP02-2019, SFSP 02-2019, December 4, 2018.

***Cross Reference/  
See also:***

DECAL Policy Memorandum, *Update of Food Crediting System to Include Various Food Items Which Were Previously Uncreditable*, December 28, 2018.

This memorandum expands on the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) policy guidance originally released on December 4, 2018, whereby such guidance sought to inform participating institutions and sponsors of the credibility of various food items which were previously uncreditable.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, this memorandum seeks to clarify *how* shelf-stable, dried and semi-dried meat, poultry and seafoods snacks now deemed creditable, will credit towards a reimbursable meal or snack.

As stated above, effective December 4, 2018, shelf-stable, dried and semi-dried meat, poultry and seafood snacks, such as beef jerky or summer sausage are creditable towards the **meat** component in a reimbursable meal or snack at the discretion of institutions and sponsors. Additionally, in order to simplify meal planning for Program operators, use of these products is not limited to meals and snacks served off-site.

### Crediting Guidance

Those institutions and sponsors electing to credit these items must follow the crediting principles used for all other products made from meat, poultry, or seafood. For specific crediting guidance, please visit the *Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement* section of the Child Nutrition (CN) Labeling Program

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<sup>1</sup> USDA Policy Memorandum, SP 08-2019, CACFP 02-2019, SFSP 02-2019, December 4, 2018.

website at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cnlabeling/food-manufacturersindustry>. Notably, dried meat, poultry, or seafood products are not included in the *Food Buying Guide for CNPs* because industry production standards for these products vary widely. Therefore, the two acceptable formats for documenting meal contributions from dried meat, poultry, and seafood products are the following:

- Product Formulation Statements (PFSs); or
- Products labeled under the CN Labeling Program.

When a PFS is provided for a dried meat product, it should be evaluated to ensure the following crediting principles are followed:

- The creditable meat ingredient listed on the PFS must match or have a similar description as the ingredient listed on the product label (*e.g.*, Ground Beef, Not More than 30% Fat or Beef Round Roast);
- The creditable meat ingredient listed on the PFS must have a similar description to a food item in the *Food Buying Guide for CNPs*; and
- The creditable amount cannot exceed the finished weight of the product.

For questions concerning this memorandum, please contact the Policy Administrator at (404) 651-8193.