



Building Partnerships for Tomorrow

Union County Educational Services Commission

45 Cardinal Drive
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Phone: 908-233-9317
Fax: 908-233-7432
Transportation Fax: 908-518-1669

UCESC

<p>Terry Foppert Superintendent tfoppert@ucesc.org</p> <p>Michael J. Kowalski Assistant Superintendent mkowalski@ucesc.org</p> <p>Robert A. Behot, Ed.D. Business Administrator/ Board Secretary rbehot@ucesc.org</p> <p>William C. Schaarschmidt Transportation Coordinator wschaarschmidt@ucesc.org</p>
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Breakfast Offer versus Serve Policy

Union County Educational Services Commission:

Implementation Date: September 7, 2017

Offer versus serve (OVS) is a policy for reimbursable meals that allows students to decline a certain number of food components in the meal in order to reduce plate waste and food cost.

A school breakfast eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer four (4) food *items* from the three (3) food *components* in the appropriate amounts per grade grouping:

- Fruit or vegetable or juice,
- Milk,
- Grains (Including optional meat/meat alternate)

Students are allowed to decline one (1) of the four (4) *items* offered, but **must select** at least ½ cup of either fruit (or fruit combination) or a ½ cup of vegetable (or vegetable combination) or ½ cup of a fruit /vegetable combination.

The student's decision to accept all four (4) food *items* or to decline one (1) food *item* shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The breakfast is priced as a unit. If children do not choose enough food items to comprise a reimbursable meal, a la carte prices will be charged.

School staff cannot make exceptions to the policy, such as requiring every child to take a particular food component. It is the student's choice to select any three or all four food items of the reimbursable meal.

At each school implementing the Offer versus Serve Policy, school food service staff will be trained annually.

Offer versus Serve will be implemented in all schools

Offer versus Serve for Breakfast

Select 3 or 4 Items from the 3 components

Component 1

Fruit (and optional vegetables)



Component 2

Milk



Component 3

Grains
(and optional meat/meat alternate)



Choose at least 3 items including:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup of fruit or vegetable

For best nutrition, choose all 4 items

Note: Some grain components are more than 1 item



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.