



DIRECTIONS

a publication of child nutrition and food distribution

CN Labels Required for Processed Foods

Schools serving processed items like pizza, chicken patties, corndogs, etc., must keep documentation on file to show how each item meets the meal pattern requirements. The easiest way to do this is to keep copies of the CN labels on the processed items you serve. The CN label stands for Child Nutrition. It is a label that provides information on how that particular food item may be used to meet the USDA meal pattern requirements. For example, a CN label on a chicken nugget product may tell how many nuggets are equivalent to 2 oz meat/meat alternate and if the breading on the nugget qualifies as a grain/bread for the USDA meal pattern requirements.

The CN labeling program is a voluntary federal labeling program. Not all processed foods will have a CN label on their package.

In lieu of a CN label, a Product Fact Sheet (sometimes called a Product Analysis Sheet) that contains Child Nutrition Program crediting information may be used. The Product Fact Sheet must be signed by a representative of the company. This is not an ingredient label or a nutrition facts label.

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Are You A Team Nutrition School? It's Free To Join!

Becoming a Team Nutrition (TN) school helps focus attention on helping students learn to enjoy healthy eating and physical activity. New TN schools receive a resource kit of materials to help plan and carry out nutrition education activities for students and families. As USDA develops new TN materials, they are mailed to the TN school leader listed on the TN school enrollment form.

It is free to join the team. Check the TN schools database at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/database.html> and use the search page to see if your school is listed. Even if you find your school is a TN school, you may need to update the names of those listed as

TN school leader, school principal, or school foodservice manager (some schools could have signed on as early as 1995 when TN school sign up was started).

To receive a TN mini-grant or to work on the HealthierUS School Challenge, it is required to be a TN school. Our office still finds many North Dakota schools not signed on yet when we check for the schools participating in those opportunities.

Signing up is simple. Print and complete the one page school enrollment form and fax or mail to USDA as indicated on the TN website page at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/team.html>. Click now and **Join the Team!**

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent
 600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201
 Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

Grand Forks School Wins USDA HUSSC Award



Phoenix Elementary School in Grand Forks has been awarded the prestigious HUSSC Gold Award of Distinction and \$2,500 by USDA. This is the first Gold of Distinction award designation in the ten state Mountain Plains Region. HUSSC (Healthier US School Challenge) awards recognize exemplary school nutrition programs.

Darryl Tunseth, Principal; **Lisa Pino**, USDA Deputy Administrator; **Julie Tunseth**, Nutrition Services, Director; **Kim Dietrich**, Dietitian; **Maureen Harmon**, Food Service Supervisor; **Brenda Kietzman**, Phoenix Cook Mgr.; **Lori Chase**, Physical Education Instructor; **Norine Savage**, Phoenix Cook; **Paul Plutowski**, PTO President

October Claims for Reimbursement

Our office is requesting that schools complete the October claims for reimbursement as quickly as possible. October claim numbers determine the school's free and reduced eligibility for the new school year. This information is used by agencies to determine your school's funding allocation. We receive many requests for this information from agencies writing grants on behalf of schools.



Are You Interested In Learning More About Taking The HealthierUS School Challenge?

The HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) is a national certification initiative available to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. USDA instituted it to acknowledge schools that create healthier school environments through promotion of good nutrition and physical activity. The four levels of superior performance with monetary awards are: Bronze (\$500), Silver (\$1,000), Gold (\$1,500) and Gold of Distinction (\$2,000).

North Dakota Child Nutrition has developed a HUSSC training to help schools understand the application requirements and provide information and ideas for changes or improvements to meet the criteria. Are you ready to send a team to a HUSSC training and find out more about taking the challenge? Interested schools should contact Loris in our office (e-mail lfreier@nd.gov, phone 701-328-2664 or toll-free 1-888-338-3664).

Team Nutrition (TN) funds will cover travel expenses. At the training, your school will also be offered an opportunity to apply for a \$500 TN materials mini-grant. This is in addition to the monetary award for the school foodservice account from USDA when the school receives a HUSSC certification.

Check out the HUSSC criteria and application information on the USDA TN website at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/healthierUS/index.html>. You can order a copy of the new HUSSC Application Kit from USDA on-line, or contact Loris. Let us know now if we can list you as a school ready to take the challenge!

Cheese/Cheese Product/Cheese Sauce- What's Creditable?

Natural Cheese: Packages that state natural cheese credits ounce for ounce as a meat alternate. For example: cheese sticks, cheddar, mozzarella, monterey jack.

Processed Cheese: To make processed cheese, natural cheeses are melted together with small amounts of liquids and emulsifiers added. An ounce of processed cheese credits as an ounce of meat alternate. For example: deli slices.

Processed Cheese "Product": Contains less than 51 percent cheese. A cheese product is NOT Creditable. This includes Kraft Singles (and store brands) and Velveeta.

Processed Cheese "Food" or "Spread": Contains at least 51 percent cheese. One ounce of

cheese food or spread only credits as ½ ounce meat alternate.

Cheese Sauce: Some frozen cheese sauces do have a CN label. Most require serving 2 ounces to be credited as one ounce of meat alternate. We have not found a canned cheese sauce that has a CN label. If a canned cheese sauce is labeled as Processed Cheese Food or Spread, one ounce would be creditable as ½ ounce meat alternate.



Child Nutrition and Food Distribution Programs

In-State Toll Free: 1-888-338-3663

Local: 701-328-2294

Fax: 701-328-2461

Website: www.dpi.state.nd.us/child

Circulate to School Nutrition Staff:

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For inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies please contact: Robert Marthaller, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept 201, Bismarck, ND 58505-0440, 701-328-2267.

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Calendar of Events

November 2010

- 1-5 Commodity Route A
- 1-12 Preference Survey Date- January Delivery month
- 8 & 22 Pathways- Fundamentals of School Food Service-West Fargo
- 8-12 Commodity Route B
- 15-19 Commodity Route C
- 29- Dec 3 Commodity Route A

December 2010

- 6-10 Commodity Route B
- 7-17 Preference Survey Date- February Delivery month
- 13-17 Commodity Route C

Return Service Requested

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Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

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