



### Lunch Offer Versus Serve Policy

Name of Local Education Agency (LEA): Foundation Academy Charter School

Implementation Date: 11/1/2018 Reviewed and affirmed: 1/31/2024

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 waste and food cost.

A school lunch eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer five (5) food components in the appropriate amounts per grade grouping:

- Fruit,
- Vegetable,
- Milk,
- Grain and
- Meat/Meat Alternate

Students are allowed to decline two (2) of the five (5) required food components, but must select at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of either fruit (or fruit combination) or a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of vegetable (or vegetable combination) or  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of fruit/vegetable combination.

After selecting the  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of fruit or vegetable requirement, students must select at least two (2) additional full components in the full amounts (per age/grade grouping required amounts) to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal.

The student's decision to accept all five (5) food components or to decline two (2) food components shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The lunch price is price 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, except the mandatory  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup fruit or vegetable.

Prepackaged meals such as bagged or "grab and go" meals are allowed. However, school staff is encouraged to have some food components/food items with choices and/or the option to decline, such as fruit or milk.

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.



## **Breakfast Offer Versus Serve Policy**

Name of Local Education Agency (LEA): Foundation Academy Charter School

Implementation Date: 11/1/2018

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 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 (including optional vegetables)
- Grains (including optional meat/meat alternate)
- Milk

Students are allowed to decline one (1) of the four (4) items offered, but must select at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of fruit (or  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of vegetables) or  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of a fruit/vegetable combination.

After taking the required  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup fruit, students must select at least two (2) additional food items in the full amounts (per grade group requirements) to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal.

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 students do not choose enough food items to comprise a reimbursable meal, a la carte prices will be charged.

School staff cannot require a student to take a particular food component (except the required  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup fruit). It is the student's choice to select three or all four food items.

Prepackaged meals such as bagged or "grab and go" meals are allowed under OVS. School staff is encouraged to offer some food components/food items with choices (e.g. fruit basket) and/or the option to decline an item, such as milk.

At each school implementing the Offer Versus Serve Policy:

- School food service staff will be trained annually.
- Signs will be posted to assist students in identifying a reimbursable meal under OVS.

Offer Versus Serve will be implemented in all schools.