

## CN LABELS AND PRODUCTS FORMULATION STATEMENTS MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATES

We talk a lot about CN Labels and PFS's for storebought combination foods; however that is not the only product that might need one. There are certain Meat/Meat Alternate products that also need these labels in order to be able to serve them as a creditable component on the CACFP.

***Here is an overview/reminder from the DPI website:***

The Community Nutrition Team would like to remind programs about the documentation requirements for crediting processed meat/meat alternate food items to all Child Nutrition Programs.

The following processed meat/meat alternate foods require a Child Nutrition (CN) Label or Product Formulation Statement (PFS).

- ❖ *Liverwurst*
- ❖ *Meat analogs (veggie burgers, breakfast links, textured vegetable protein crumbles)*
- ❖ *Meat/poultry sticks (not dried or semi-dried)*
- ❖ *Pepperoni (traditional, turkey)*
- ❖ *Polish sausage*
- ❖ *Salami*
- ❖ *Dried and semi-dried meat, poultry, and seafood snacks, shelfstable, such as jerky or summer sausage*
- ❖ *Soy cheese/Soy products (soy sausage, veggie burgers)*
- ❖ *Tofu products (links, sausages)*
- ❖ *Turkey bacon*

The following processed meat/meat alternate foods **do not** require a CN Label or PFS when the ingredients are 100% creditable meat ingredients (may contain salt and seasoning).

- ❖ *Beef patties*
- ❖ *Bologna*
- ❖ *Hot dogs*
- ❖ *Vienna sausage*

If those items contain binders/extenders, fillers, byproducts, or cereals it is not 100% meat and is only creditable with a CN label or PFS.

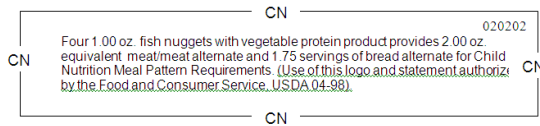
If a CN Label or PFS cannot be obtained, do not serve the item as part of a reimbursable meal.

**Here is an overview from the 4-C CACFP Annual Record Keeping Assignment:**

Store Bought Combination Foods combine two or more menu components in a single serve food item (such as corn dogs, fish sticks, chicken nuggets, and commercially prepared pizza). Processed Meat/Meat Alternates are products without 100% meat ingredients that contain binders/extenders, byproducts, cereals, or fillers (such as meatballs, frozen beef patties, and soy cheese).

In order to be reimbursed for serving a Store-Bought Combination Food and/or Processed Meat/Meat Alternate Products, you must have either:

≈ a Child Nutrition Label (CN) on the package



≈ Or, you must obtain a Product Formulation Statement (PFS) from the manufacturer.

**Sample Product Formulation Statement (Product Analysis) for Meat/Meat Alternate (M/MA) Products**

Child Nutrition Program operators should include a copy of the label from the purchased product carton in addition to the following information on letterhead signed by an official company representative.

Product Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Code No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Case/Pack/Count/Portion/Size: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Meat/Meat Alternate**

Please fill out the chart below to determine the creditable amount of Meat/Meat Alternate (M/MA)

Description of Creditable Ingredients per Food Buying Guide (FBG)	Ounces per Raw Portion of Creditable Ingredient	Multiply	FBG Yield/ Servings Per Unit	Creditable Amount *
		X		
		X		
		X		

A. Total Creditable M/MA Amount\*

\* Creditable Amount - Multiply ounces per raw portion of creditable ingredient by the FBG Yield information.

If you submit claims for reimbursement for any Store-Bought Combination Food or Processed Meat/Meat Alternate Products, your Nutrition Specialist will be checking for documentation at home visits.

**Note:** if you are unable to obtain the necessary documentation and still serve the Store-Bought Combination Food as an “additional food” it needs to be done in conjunction with a creditable food. For example: a provider serves store-bought chicken nuggets and does not have a CN Label or PFS. The provider is unable to claim the chicken nuggets as the meat/meat alternate component and serves cheese in addition to the chicken nuggets. In this case, the cheese is the creditable meat/meat alternate component, and the chicken nuggets are an additional food.

**Processed meat/meat alternates and documentation requirements for crediting these items to the meal pattern can be found in the USDA Crediting Handbook for CACFP and DPI’s CACFP Creditable and NonCreditable Foods Guide.**