

Menu Records for Self-Preparation Sites

Virginia Department of Health
Special Nutrition Programs

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Module #5: Menu Records Self-Preparation Sites

Resources: the following are several resources available to use when completing menus

- **Food Buying Guide**
- **Child Nutrition (CN) labels**
- **Food Product Specifications**
- **Standardized Recipes**

Nutrition Guidance for Sponsors:

- Menu Planning Ideas
- Recommendations for Meal Service
 - Selecting and training staff
 - Food purchasing and receiving
 - Food service quality
- Food Storage
- Food Safety

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Food Buying Guide (FBG):

- Food safety warnings
- Calculation examples
- Tables and charts
- Current SFSP meal patterns
- Updated fruit and vegetable sections
- Grain/breads instruction and flow chart

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Standardized Recipes: The use of standardized recipes produces products consistent in both quality and quantity. The components of a standardized recipe include:

- The name of the recipe
- An ingredient list
- Weights and/or measures of ingredients
- Preparation directions

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Standardized Recipes: The components of a standardized recipe include:

- Yield
- Pan size
- Serving size and how to serve the product school and child care standardized recipes including the recipe's contribution to the meal pattern.

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Menu Records: Menu records are tools to...

- **Plan menus**
- **Record exactly what was prepared**
- **Prevent food waste**
- **Provide information for future food preparation**

Steps to Completing Menu Records

SFSP regulations require sponsors to maintain records which document participation and preparing or ordering meals to justify all costs and meals claimed.

To meet this requirement sponsors must have:

- Daily meal count sheets
- Receipts/invoices to document food purchased or donated
- Menus listing food items served to meet component requirement. It is recommended to include portion sizes and contribution to the meal pattern.
- Substitution(s) recorded on the menu
- CN labels for commercially prepared foods or have the Food Product Specifications available.

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Menu Records

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In addition, sponsors should...

- Use and maintain standardized recipes
- For sponsors who prepare their own meals, maintain a transport/delivery record to document meals transferred from the kitchen to the site.