

Offer vs. Serve Policy & Procedures
National School Breakfast and Lunch Program
Auburn Public Schools 2018-2019

Offer versus serve or OVS applies to menu planning and meal service provided for the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. The primary goals are to enhance student choice in selecting the foods they want to eat and to reduce food waste in Auburn Public Schools. The Offer vs. Serve Policy and Procedure also provided guidance on what constitutes a reimbursable breakfast and lunch. Menu planning ensures that students have access to all the required food components for the reimbursable meal and minimize food waste.

The Offer versus Serve (OSV) policy – allows students to take smaller portions of the fruits and vegetables components, if desired. Under OVS, students must select only ½ cup daily of the fruits or the vegetables components as part of the reimbursable lunch or breakfast, even if larger portions are offered.

The NSLP meal pattern establishes daily minimum requirements for fruits, vegetables, grains, meats/meat alternates, and milk (5 required components). The SBP meal pattern sets daily minimum requirements for fruits, grains, and milk (3 required components). The meal patterns also include weekly ranges (minimums and maximums) for the grains and meat/meat alternate components. The weekly maximum levels serve as a guide for menu planners to offer age appropriate meals.

Students may select a single fruit type or a combination of fruits to meet the required fruit component. Under OVS, however, the student must select at least ½ cup of any fruit or combination of fruits and or vegetables to have a reimbursable meal for breakfast and for lunch.

Students must select at least ½ cup of either the fruit or the vegetable components, or a ½ cup combination of both components (¼ cup fruits and ¼ cup of vegetables), for a reimbursable meal. If a student selects only three components, and two of any these three components are fruits and vegetables, the students may select ½ cup of either the fruit or vegetable, but then must select the full components of the other. The number of components that may be declined at lunch under OVS is the same for all age/grade groups. Signage will be highly visible to indicate to students and staff what constitutes a reimbursable meal at the serving area and the POS cashier station.

School meals pricing is not impacted for Offer vs. Serve or eligibility status. For the 2018-1019 school year Breakfast meal prices are \$1.75 for Breakfast K-12 and Lunch \$2.50 for Pre-K, Lunch \$2.75 grades K - 6 and Lunch \$3.00 for grades 7 - 12. Breakfast \$.30 reduced and Lunch \$.40 reduced price for all graded. Free and reduced priced meals are provided for those that qualify through the USDA meals eligibility criteria.

Reference: For the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), OVS is established under section 9 (a)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. OVS was extended to the School Breakfast Program (SBP) in 1985 under section 4 (e) (2) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966. The regulations on OVS for the NSLP are found at 7 CFR 210.10 (e) and for the SBP at 7 CFR 220.9 (e).

*Pre-K students are offered all components to meet their nutrition requirements and are not an offer vs. serve lunch service.