# Nutrition Guidelines 

## for Student Nutrition Programs (SNP)

## What is a healthy <br> SNP meal?

Breakfast, morning meal, lunch
Includes 3 food groups:

- 1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit
- 1 serving of Milk and Alternatives
- 1 serving of Grain Products and/or Meat and Alternatives



## What is a healthy SNP snack?

## Snack

Includes 2 food groups:

- 1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit
- 1 serving of Milk and Alternatives and/or Grain Products and/or Meat and Alternatives


|  | Examples of one full serving |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fresh vegetables, fruit <br> $-125 \mathrm{~mL}, 1 / 2$ cup <br> - fruit: 1 medium | Bread <br> $\cdot 35 \mathrm{~g}, 1$ slice |

## Important Principles

## Always:

- Follow your school or centre's Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy.
- One person who has attended the Food Safety and Nutrition Workshop within the last 2 years must be on-site when the program is running.
- Practice safe food handling.
- Offer tap water at every meal or snack.
- Offer serving sizes that are appropriate to the appetites of the participants. Have extra servings available when possible.
- Minimize food and packaging waste as much as possible.


## Vegetables and Fruit

Key Message: Serve a full serving of vegetables and/or fruit at every meal or snack.

| Serve (examples) | Do Not Serve (examples) |
| :--- | :--- |
| - fresh, frozen vegetables and fruit with no added sugar, | - fruit-flavoured drink, cocktail, punch |
| salt or sauce | - fruit rolls, snacks, gummies |
| - unsweetened fruit sauce, blends | - vegetable and fruit chips |
| - canned fruit in water or juice | - French fries, hash browns, battered potato or vegetable |
| - canned vegetables low sodium ${ }^{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}$, no salt or drained | - sweetened fruit sauce |
| - dried fruit with no added sugar | - fruit canned in syrup |
| - 100\% juice, fruit or vegetable : maximum once a week | - raw sprouts, unpasteurized juice |

## Grain Products

## Key Message: Choose products with whole grain and/or whole wheat listed first

 on the ingredients list.Examples: Whole grain whole wheat, whole grain couscous, whole grain rye, barley, wild or whole grain brown rice, brown rice, whole oats, rolled oats, corn and corn meal

## Bread products, Grain-based snacks, Pasta, Rice and Grains

 Key Message: Choose products with whole grain and/or whole wheat listed first on the ingredients list.| Serve (examples) | Do Not Serve (examples) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Whole grain bread products: | Bread-products: |
| - bread, English muffins, pita, buns, bagels, rolls, tortilla, | • flavoured, sugar coated breads, bagels |
| - roti, pizza crust, flatbread |  |
| - pancakes |  |
| Whole grain grain-based snacks, pasta, rice and grains: | Grain-based snacks, pasta, rice and grain high in |
| - crackers, brown rice cakes | sodium』: |
| - popcorn (plain, unsalted) | - instant ramen and soups |
| - rice, grains (quinoa, oats, couscous) | - instant flavoured rice and noodle dishes |
| - pasta | - rice chips, potato chips, snack chips |

## Cereals and Baked Goods

Key Messages:

- Choose products with whole grain and/or whole wheat listed first on the ingredients list.
- Products should have less than or equal to 8 g of sugar per 30 g serving.

| Serve (examples) | Do Not Serve (examples) |
| :--- | :--- |
| - whole grain cold/dry cereals | - any item with chocolate, candy, marshmallow or yogurt <br> - oatmeal, porridge <br> dip or pieces |
| - whole grain muffins, biscuits, granola bars |  |
|  | craks, donuts, pastres, squares |

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## Milk and Alternatives

## Key Message: Serve milk or milk alternatives at every meal.

| Serve (examples) | Do Not Serve (examples) |
| :--- | :--- |
| - milk and fortified soy beverage | - unfortified soy beverage |
| - yogurt, yogurt drink | - hot chocolate, milkshakes, cream |
| - hard cheese, cheese strings | - processed cheese slices and spreads |
| - chocolate/flavoured milk: maximum once a week | - unpasteurized/raw milk and milk products |

## Meat and Alternatives

Key Message: Serve meat alternatives such as eggs, beans, lentils more often.

| Serve (examples) | Do Not Serve (examples) |
| :--- | :--- |
| - eggs | - bacon, hot dogs (meat/poultry or soy) |
| - hummus | - pre-frozen breaded products (fish, meat or soy) |
| - dried or canned beans, lentils (drained, rinsed) | - frozen or prepared meat pies, flaky meat patties |
| - veggie burgers | - deli meats |
| - canned light tuna | - canned white, albacore tuna |
| - fresh or frozen fish, meat | - salted, candied or coated nuts* or seeds* |
| - nuts*, seeds ${ }^{*}$, nut butter* |  |

*For nut and seed foods: always follow your school or centre's Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy

## Minor Ingredients

## May be served in small amounts

- condiments (e.g. cream cheese, ketchup, mustard)
- dips (e.g. salad dressing, sour cream, baba ganoush, spinach dip)
- sweets and spreads (e.g. honey, jam, jelly, fruit butter, syrup)
- oils, dressings, spreads (e.g. butter, non-hydrogenated margarine, mayonnaise, salad dressing)
- toppings and extras (e.g. hot/pickled peppers, olives, pickles, parmesan)
- gravies and sauces


## Do Not Serve

| Beverages | Snack Foods |
| :---: | :---: |
| - caffeinated beverages including coffee, tea <br> - energy drinks, sports drinks <br> - pop (diet or regular), iced tea <br> - protein or meal replacement drinks <br> - vitamin and flavoured waters | - energy or meal replacement bars <br> - candy, chocolate, marshmallows, gummies, jelly desserts <br> - frozen treats (e.g. popsicles, ice cream, frozen yogurt, slushies, frozen juice snacks) |
| Ingredients |  |
| - hard margarine <br> - palm oil | - lard or shortening <br> - foods with artificial trans fats (e.g. hydrogenated oil) |

## How to Read Nutrition Labelling



Nutrition labelling is information found on the labels of packaged foods. It includes the Nutrition Facts table and ingredients list. Use the information found there to choose the right foods to serve.

## Reference Amount

Sodium
"Low in sodium" means less than or equal to 140 mg of sodium per reference amount.

## Sugar

Hot and cold cereals, baked goods, and granola bars should have less than or equal to 8 g of sugar per 30 g serving.

## Ingredients List

The first ingredient on grain products must be whole grain or whole wheat.


The ingredients list is where you will find allergen information.

## Additional resources and tips for programs

- Student Nutrition Toronto www.studentnutritiontoronto.ca/snt-program-portal
- Toronto Public Health www.toronto.ca/health/student_nutrition_program
- Canada's Food Guide, 'What is a Food Guide Serving?' Health Canada. 2007. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/basics-base/serving-portion-eng.php
- Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services, 'Student Nutrition Program Nutrition Guidelines 2016’.

Province of Ontario, 2016. www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/professionals/studentnutrition/toc.aspx
If you have questions about nutrition or food safety, call your Registered Dietitian or your Public Health Inspector, or reach them through Toronto Public Health at 416-338-7600.


[^0]:    © Low sodium products have less than or equal to 140 mg of sodium on the Nutrition Facts label.

