

Posted: 9/03/2014

To: School Food Authorities

Subject: SFS-14-128 CN Labels and Meal Determination

State agency compliance monitors have the responsibility to determine if the foods served meet the requirements for a reimbursable meal. During the review process, they must determine that:

- 1) serving of meal components meet the minimum serving sizes
- 2) all components are available to all students throughout the meal service
- 3) ensure all vegetable subgroups and whole grain rich foods are available in the prescribed minimum serving sizes throughout the week
- 4) that OVS is implemented properly.

With the new Administrative Review process, documentation can be provided in advance, but must be validated during the on-site portion of the review. This is where CN label documentation becomes important. If the particular school being reviewed doesn't have a copy of the correct CN labels from the actual product box, the reviewers ask for documentation on file and in many cases, the only thing produced is a copy of a CN label with the watermark that states "Copy not for documenting Federal Meal Requirements."

If the CN label from the product box is not available, watermarked CN label documents cannot be used to document the product's contribution towards meal pattern requirements Child Nutrition program operators must be advised to have the actual box labels or a copy or picture of the actual label; otherwise, they will need to obtain a valid product formulation statement. The following links provide further information regarding this topic.

- Product Formulation Statement Memo:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/TA_07-2010_os.pdf

- Policy on Copied Labels:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnlabeling/frequently-asked-questions-copying-federally-inspected-product-labels-bidding-process>

Refer to the CNP website for further information. The web address is

<http://cnp.doe.louisiana.gov>. You must have above acrobat to open pdf files. Adobe may be downloaded FREE from the following web

address: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2/html>