



BRIGHT FROM THE START
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Memorandum

To: All CACFP Participants

From: Jackie Romain, Director
Nutrition Services Division

Date: December 17, 2007

Re: Corn Meal (Cornmeal) and Corn Flour for Grains/Breads Component

In order for grain products to be credited as a grain/bread component for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), they must be enriched or whole-grain, or made from enriched or whole-grain meal and/or flour. Bran and germ are credited the same as enriched or whole-grain meal or flour.

In the past, the CACFP has allowed corn meal (cornmeal) and corn flour to be counted as a whole grain for crediting grains/breads because the standard of identity of these products were interpreted as yielding a whole grain. However, on February 17, 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a draft guidance entitled Whole Grain Label Statements that contained the following statement: *“Degerminated and bolted cornmeals should not be considered whole grain products because germ or bran has been removed during processing. Because the rest of the meal [flour] standards allow removal of some of the hull, these also should not be considered whole grain products.”*

This clarification by FDA of the standards of identity for “corn meal” and “corn flour” indicates that these products **should no longer be considered as whole grains** for the CACFP.

Therefore, beginning February 1, 2008, to be credited toward meeting meal pattern requirements, corn must be labeled as one of the following

1. **“Whole corn” (or other “whole” corn designations, such as whole grain corn, whole ground corn, whole cornmeal, whole corn flour, etc.), or**
2. **“Enriched” corn (or other “enriched” corn designations, such as enriched yellow cornmeal, enriched corn flour, enriched corn grits, etc.).**

For questions concerning this memorandum, please contact Marissa L. Hamm Policy Administrator, at (404) 651-7181.