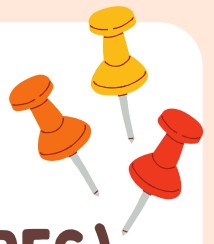


CHILD NUTRITION (CN) LABELS & PRODUCT FORMULATION STATEMENTS (PFS)



Child Nutrition (CN) Labels: a voluntary label that food manufacturers can choose to include on their products stating the meal pattern contributions that a food provides.

- Managed by the USDA
- Acts as a “guarantee” the food meets certain meal pattern requirements.
- Only foods containing meat/meat alternates qualify for a CN label (typically processed meat/meat alternate items)



Where can you find a CN label?

A CN label is most often found on the food package (if purchased through a food distributor) or upon request from a food manufacturer directly. Grocery/retail food products typically do not have a CN label.



Sample CN label:

Beef Crumbles With Soy Protein

Ingredient Statement: Ground beef (no more than 20% fat), textured soy protein product, water, salt, pepper.

CN XXXXXX*

Each 2.20 oz. serving of Cooked Beef Patty Crumbles (By Weight) provides 2.00 oz. equivalent meat/meat alternate for Child Nutrition Meal Pattern Requirements. (Use of this logo and statement authorized by the Food and Nutrition Service, USDA mm/yy**).

CN

CN

Net Wt.: 19.0 pounds

DFG Food Company
1234 Yellow Road Oaktown, PA 12345

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EST. 1862

Product Formulation Statements (PFS):

A statement that a food manufacturer voluntarily provides to document meal pattern contributions of processed foods.

- Not managed by the USDA
- **Must be on company letterhead and include a signature** from a representative of the food manufacturer
- Foods that contribute to any of the meal pattern categories may be on a PFS, not just meat/meat alternates
- Unprocessed food does not typically have a PFS

Where can you find PFS?

Either from your food distributor or from a food manufacturer directly.



The ingredients on your menu will not all qualify for a CN label, since this is a voluntary labeling program.

The meal pattern contributions for most foods (produce, raw meat/poultry, eggs, flour, yogurt, etc.) can be found in the USDA's Food Buying Guide.

You must keep your CN & PFS on hand as part of the CACFP recordkeeping requirement.

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