## USING THE LUNCH MATRIXES

The Lunch Recipe Group Lists include recipes grouped according to calories.

Note: Elementary lunch matrixes are set up with two entree choices. If only one entree is to be offered, simply fill out only one meat / meat alternative row and one grain row, leaving the second meat / meat alternative and grain rows blank.

CREDIT ABBREVIATIONS:
M/MA-Meat/Meat Alternate WGR-Whole Grain Rich

F-Fruit
V:B/P-Beans/Peas
V:0 -Other Vegetable
$\mathrm{V}: \mathrm{R} / \mathrm{O}$-Red /Orange Vegetable
V:DG-Dark Green Vegetable
V:S-Starchy Vegetable
M-Milk

## EXAMPLE:

Grade 6-8 Menu
Mixed Ranges
For Day 1:
Choose a meat/meat alternate component from Group D List
-MRS 560: Chicken Loaded Baked Potato-
Choose a grain component from Lunch Grains List
-MRS 1355: Roll, 2 oz. eq.-
Choose a meat/meat alternate component from Group F List
-MRS: 822: Vegetable Beef Soup \& Sandwich Combo-
NOTE: GRAIN INCLUDED WITH THIS ENTREÉ CHOICE
Choose a vegetable from Dark Green Vegetable List
-MRS 1012: Cheesy Broccoli-
Choose a vegetable from Other Vegetable List -MRS 1032: Creole Green Beans-

Choose a fruit from Group B List -MRS 1226: Grapes-

Choose a fruit from Group C List
-MRS 1247: Frozen Fruit Juice Cups-
Choose two milk selections from Milk List
-MRS 1708: Unflavored Low Fat Milk--MRS 1706: Unflavored Fat Free Milk-

Choose condiments from Condiments List -MRS 1564: Sour Cream —

Lunch Matrixes are available in two formats for menu planning and are customized for daily/weekly requirements according to age/grade groups:

- "Ascending"-the calories for the entree row ascend.

For Example: Day 1: 200-249, Day 2: 250-299, Day 3: 300-349, Day 4: 350-399, Day 5: 400+

- "Mixed"-the calories for the entree rows vary through the week.

For Example: Day 1: 300-349, Day 2: 200-249, Day 3: 400+, Day 4: 250-299, Day 5: 200-249

## Blank template matrixes for each are provided for use in planning menus.

The columns in each matrix represent the five days of a school week and the rows relate to the individual meal components that make up each meal. Daily and/or weekly minimum servings are indicated on the left for each required meal component and the weekly sodium and saturated fat allowances are noted on each matrix.

Recipe lists (see Recipe Lists in this section) have been compiled according to specific calorie ranges and nutrition specifications (ie., saturated fat, trans fat, and sodium), for each meal component indicated in the matrices.

By referencing the individual recipe lists, menu planners can efficiently make selections that meet designated calorie ranges and saturated fat percentages.

Follow these instructions when developing menus with the Lunch Matrix and referencing corresponding recipe lists:

1. Choose a matrix by age/grade group (grades $K-5$, grades $6-8$, or grades $9-12$ ).
2. Refer to the designated Recipe Lists for each meal component to fill in the menu for each day.
3. Following the matrix template, begin with the top row of Day 1 by selecting a meat/meat alternate recipe from the designated Recipe List and write it in place.
4. Continue with the selection of a grain to complete the first entree choice. -If your menu includes two entree options, repeat steps 3 and 4.-
5. Now select the vegetable options to fulfill the vegetable subgroup listed.
6. Select the fruit choices listed.
7. Decide on a variety of milk options. (The matrix lists two choices, but student preferences may require greater variety.)
8. Identify any condiments that may be needed to enhance the meal (i.e. dressings to serve with salad or ketchup to serve with a hamburger).
9. As needed for calories, select a dessert to complement the meal. Remember, grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
10. Repeat selection process of selections for Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, and Day 5 , using options that match the suggested group list for each day and adding desserts as needed for calories and condiments for student satisfaction.

After working out the entire week of menu selections, adjustments may be needed to fulfill calorie, saturated fat, and sodium requirements, keeping in mind that the weekly nutritional analysis of a menu must achieve:
a) average calories for the week must be within the range for each age/grade group
b) calories from saturated fat lower than $10 \%$ of total calories and
b) sodium not exceeding the specified age/grade group weekly limit.

Calorie and sodium requirements affect both grains and meat/meat alternates. Efficient menu planning begins with recipes that have lower values in calories, saturated fat, and sodium to allow more flexibility in completing the menu planning process.

## NOTES:

Once a weekly menu has been established, individual days within the matrix may be rearranged (for example: Day 4 may be served on Monday, Day 1 may be served on Tuesday, Day 2 may be served on Thursday).
No matter the order, menu planners must make certain that a reimbursable meal is served every day.

Grades K-5: Ascending Ranges
(550-650 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades K-5. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

Grades K-5: Mixed Ranges
(550-650 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades K-5. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

## Grades K-5: Ascending Ranges <br> (550-650 CALORIES)

|  | MEAL COMPONENTS | DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 | DAY 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEEKLY M/MA MINIMUM: | MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATECHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAILY M/MA | $\begin{aligned} & \text { GRAIN- } \\ & \text { CHOICE \#1 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 oz. eq. | MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATECHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| MINIMUM: 8 oz.eq. | $\begin{gathered} \text { GRAIN- } \\ \text { CHOICE \#2 } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DALILY MIN.: } \\ & 3 / 4 \text { cup } \end{aligned}$ | VEGETABLE-CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEEKLY MIN.: 33/4 cups | VEGETABLE-CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAILY MIN.: <br> $1 / 2$ cup | FRUIT-CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEEKLY MIN.: $21 / 2 \text { cups }$ | FRUIT-CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAlly MIN.: | MILK -CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 options offered | MILK -CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | CONDIMENTS |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DESSERT |  |  |  |  |  |

Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades K-5. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

Grades K-5: Mixed Ranges
(550-650 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades K-5. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

LUNCH MATRIX

## Grades 6-8: Ascending Ranges <br> (600-700 CALORIES)



Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 6-8. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

Grades 6-8: Mixed Ranges
(600-700 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 6-8. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

## Grades 6-8: Ascending Ranges <br> (600-700 CALORIES)

|  | MEAL COMPONENTS | DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 | DAY 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEEKLY M/MA MINIMUM: | MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATECHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAllY M/MA | GRAINCHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $1 \text { oz.eq. }$ | MEAT/MEAT ALTERNATECHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| MINIMUM: <br> 8 oz.eq. | GRAINCHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAlly MIN.: $3 / 4 \text { cup }$ | VEGETABLE-CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEEKLY MIN.: $33 / 4$ cups | VEGETABLE-CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAILY MIN.: <br> $1 / 2$ cup | FRUIT-CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEEKLY MIN.: $21 / 2 \text { cups }$ | FRUIT-CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| DAllY MIN.: | MILK -CHOICE \#1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 options offered | MILK -CHOICE \#2 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | CONDIMENTS |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DESSERT |  |  |  |  |  |

Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 6-8. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

Grades 6-8: Mixed Ranges
(600-700 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 6-8. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

LUNCH MATRIX

## Grades 9-12: Ascending Ranges <br> (750-850 CALORIES)



Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.

SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 9-12. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

Grades 9-12: Mixed Ranges
(750-850 CALORIES)


Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.
SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 9-12. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

## Grades 9-12: Ascending Ranges <br> (750-850 CALORIES)



Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.

SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 9-12. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

## Grades 9-12: Mixed Ranges <br> (750-850 CALORIES)



Desserts included only if needed for calories.
Grain based desserts must be credited as a grain component; a maximum of 2 oz . eq. of grain based desserts may be menued per week.

SODIUM ALLOWANCE: Offer lunch menus that supply a weekly average of no more than the maximum sodium level for Grades 9-12. SATURATED FAT ALLOWANCE: On average, daily menus should aim for less than 10 percent of calories to come from saturated fat, in order to achieve a weekly menu goal of less than 10 percent of total calories coming from saturated fat.

