

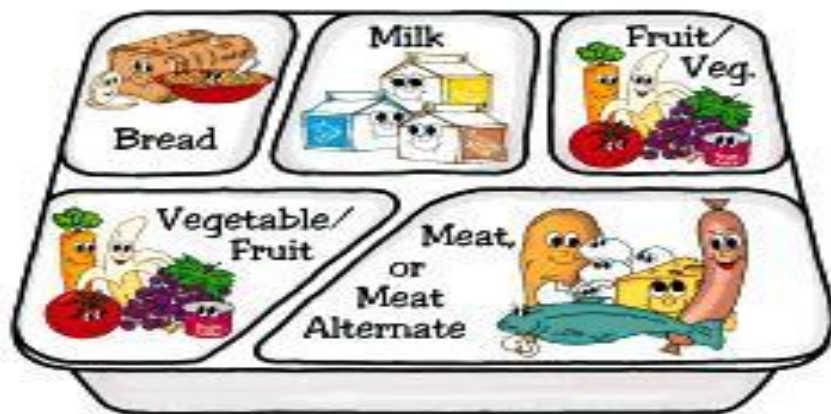
Miami – Dade County Public Schools

Department of Food and Nutrition

Offer vs. Serve  
Training Module



# Meal Components



- ✓ Students must be offered *all* required components
- ✓ Each component must include the recommended serving amount to be claimed for reimbursement
- ✓ Substantial cost savings may occur with Offer vs. Serve
- ✓ Meals must be priced as a unit

Refer to Food and Nutrition Procedure B, Meal Services



# Offer vs. Serve

- Congress passed the NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT in 1946
- Purpose: to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nations children
- Goals: minimize plate waste and encourage food choices
- Breakfast, Lunch, and After School Snack Programs meet certain federal guidelines

# Implementing Offer versus Serve Responsibilities

All Department of Food and Nutrition employees need to understand OVS and work together to implement it correctly.



## Manager's Responsibility

- Train and coach employees on OVS. This is especially important for line servers and cashiers.
- Communicate with parents, teachers, administrators, and students about OVS.

## Server's Responsibility

- Encourage students to select a full meal (all five/four menu items).
- Allow the student to decline any food.  
**Students do not have to take a milk or entrée to have a reimbursable lunch.**



## Cashier's Responsibility

- Recognize a reimbursable meal.
- Encourage students to select additional items needed for a reimbursable meal.



School Breakfast Program  
Offer versus Serve  
Traditional Menus

- ✓ All four meal components must be offered to all students.
- ✓ Serving sizes must equal the minimum required quantities for the grade group.
- ✓ Breakfast must be priced as a unit.
- ✓ Students have the option of which item to decline.
- ✓ Students must take a full portion of at least **three** of the four food items.



National School Lunch Program  
Offer versus Serve  
Traditional Menus

- ✓ All five meal components must be offered to all students.
- ✓ Serving sizes must equal the minimum required quantities for the grade group.
- ✓ Lunch must be priced as a unit.
- ✓ Students have the option of which items(s) to decline.
- ✓ Students must take a full portion of at least **three** of the five food items.