

Meal and Snack Requirements

The number of meals, snacks and/or breakfast provided by a licensed child care center shall be available as follows:

Center Hours of Operation	Meals and Snacks Available
4 to 8 hours per day	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 meal and 1 snack • 1 meal and breakfast
More than 8 hours and fewer than 14 hours per day	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 meal and 2 snacks • 1 meal and breakfast • 1 meal and 1 snack • 2 meals and 1 snack
More than 14 hours or overnight	breakfast, 2 meals and 2 snacks
After school for school children	1 snack

Note: No child shall go longer than 4 hours without being served a snack or meal, except when sleeping.

The content of meals, snacks and breakfast shall be selected from the following four basic food groups:

1. Meat or meat alternative
2. Breads and grains
3. Fruits and vegetables (juices may be used if 100% and undiluted)
4. Milk (fluid cow's milk) and dairy
 - a) 100% whole homogenized vitamin D fortified for children 12 to 24 months
 - b) 1% or skim homogenized vitamin A and D fortified for children over 24 months

Meal, snack and breakfast food group requirements:

Type of Feeding	Food Group
Meal (must provide 1/3 of the recommended daily dietary allowances as specified by the United States Department of Agriculture USDA)	All of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 serving of fluid milk • 1 serving of meat or meat alternative • 2 servings of fruits and/or vegetables • 1 serving of bread and grains
Breakfast	1 serving each from 3 of the 4 basic food groups
Snack	1 serving each from 2 of the 4 basic food groups