“Answering the USDA Foods Riddle: How do I divert what I will use and use what I divert?”

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Affiliation or Financial Disclosure

• Jonathan Ford
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• Michael Birkmeyer
  • Nothing to Disclose

• Robin Bowman
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Session Goal

To help participants understand and maximize the USDA Foods program utilizing existing tools and information available today.
Points to Cover

• Federal Funding Sources
• Utilization Process
• The Available Tools
  • USDA Foods Available List
  • District Menu
  • Commodity Calculators
  • Commodity Orders – State, Brokers and Processors
  • Tracking Commodity Balances
• The Results
Federal Funding Sources

- Section 6 of the NSLA (amended)
- Section 32 of Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935 (amended)
- Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (amended)
Funding Distribution – State Level

Number of Student Lunches Claimed
\[ \times \]
Commodity Entitlement Rate ($0.2350)$
\[ + \]
12% Provision
\[ = \]
Planned Assistance Level (PAL)
Utilization Process

Planned Assistance Level (PAL) Calculation

Menu

Evaluate Costs

Order Commodities

Receipt of Commodities
USDA Foods Available List

The USDA Foods Available List is published annually to show which foods may be offered to State Distributing Agencies (SDA) and school districts during the upcoming school year. However, which items will actually be ordered depends on SDA decisions.

Direct Delivery – Ingredients to finished end products, which can be used in preparing school meals.

Bulk for Further Processing – More than 30 different raw materials are available to divert for further processing.
Evaluating your Costs

Comparing USDA Foods vs. Further Processed Commodities

• Entitlement Value
• State Administrative Fees
• Storage Costs
• Delivery Fees
• Other Fees (Co-op etc.)
• Minimums
Using a Basic Commodity Calculator

\[
\text{Servings Required} \div \text{Servings Per Case} = \text{Number of Cases Required} \times \text{USDA Food per Case*} = \text{Total Pounds Required}
\]
Using a Basic Commodity Calculator

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\text{Servings Required} \div \text{Servings Per Case} = \text{Number of Cases Required} \times \text{USDA Food per Case*} = \text{Total Pounds Required}
\]
Using a Basic Commodity Calculator

Servings Required \( \div \) Servings Per Case = Number of Cases Required \( \times \) USDA Food per Case* = Total Pounds Required
Using a Basic Commodity Calculator

Servings Required ÷ Servings Per Case = Number of Cases Required

Number of Cases Required × USDA Food per Case* = Total Pounds Required

*Available from Summary End Product Data Sheets
Using a Basic Commodity Calculator

| Servings Required | ÷ | Servings Per Case | = | Number of Cases Required | × | USDA Food per Case* | = | ^Total Pounds Required |

^This is the amount to request from your state by commodity

*This is the amount to request from your state by commodity
Next Steps

• Once you have determined your USDA Foods needs communicate to you state by the required due date
• Communicate these orders to your local broker and processors.
• Verify receipt, delivery schedule and location with brokers and processors 6-8 weeks prior to your delivery.
• Remember to track your district’s commodity usage MONTHLY using K-12 or Processor Link to ensure you are getting credit and on pace to utilize all your diverted pounds.
Congratulations!

Hopefully you have effectively used all of your entitlement and utilized these dollars to favorably impact your menu costs.

QUESTIONS?
Evaluate This Session

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Thank You!