

# Information for K-12 Schools on Reducing Wasted Food including Donation from School Breakfast and Lunch Programs

## EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy (right), prioritizes these food waste strategies from most to least preferable.

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## General – Addresses Several Areas on Hierarchy

USDA Food Waste Challenge info for K-12 schools – links to many resources  
[http://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/resources/K12\\_schools.html](http://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/resources/K12_schools.html)

EPA Food Recovery Challenge – EPA partners with organizations and businesses to prevent and reduce wasted food. Challenge participants save money, help communities, and protect the environment by purchasing less, donating extra food, and composting.  
<http://www2.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food>

Creative Solutions to ending school food waste – USDA website  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/creative-solutions-ending-school-food-waste>

Food Waste Reduction in School Meals Programs – Flyer  
<http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/hsmrs/lowa/foodwastereduction.pdf>

Reducing Food Waste, What Schools Can Do Today – Infographic  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/cnd/Infographic-food-waste.pdf>

USDA Food Waste Webinar Videos & Presentations  
<http://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/webinars.html>

Smarter Lunchroom Self – Assessment Score Card  
<http://smarterlunchrooms.org/resource/lunchroom-self-assessment-score-card>



## Source Reduction – Preventing Food from Being Wasted in the First Place

Minimizing Food Waste: The "Offer versus Serve" (OVS) provision of the NSLP and SBP is a concept that applies to menu planning and the meal service. It is intended to minimize food waste by allowing students to turn down items they do not intend to eat or to request a smaller portion size.

What is a Reimbursable Meal? Summary from USDA  
[http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/rec\\_quality.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/rec_quality.pdf)

Healthy Kids, Hunger Free Kids Act 2010 – Flyer in English and Spanish  
See item on minimizing food waste  
[http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/School\\_Meals\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/School_Meals_Summary.pdf)

Offer versus Serve – Guidance for 2014/2015  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/SP57-2014a.pdf>



School Meals Guidance and Resources

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/guidance-and-resources>

USDA Guidance Offer VS Serve – clarifies that students can decline food they do not intend to eat

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/guidance-and-resources>



USDA Guidance: Clarification on the Use of Offer versus Serve and Family Style Meal Service – 2011

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-23-2011-clarification-use-offer-versus-serve-and-family-style-meal-service>

Great Strategies from Cornell Smarter Lunchrooms Research

<http://foodpsychology.cornell.edu/content/smarter-lunchrooms>

Tools for Assessing Wasted Food including EPA's Reducing Wasted Food & Packaging Toolkit: A Guide for Food Services and Restaurants

<http://www2.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-assessing-wasted-food>

Updated Offer vs Serve Guidance for the NSLP and SBP Beginning SY2015-16

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/updated-offer-vs-serve-guidance-nslp-and-sbp-beginning-sy2015-16>

## Donation/Recovery Resources

Guidance on the Food Donation Program in Child Nutrition Programs Feb 2012

[http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/SP11\\_CACFP05\\_SFSP07-2012os.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/SP11_CACFP05_SFSP07-2012os.pdf)

Am I Liable For Food That I Donate? Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-104publ210/pdf/PLAW-104publ210.pdf>

Legal Guide to Food Recovery (Overview of Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act & liability)

<http://law.uark.edu/documents/2013/06/Legal-Guide-To-Food-Recovery.pdf>

Find a Local Food Pantry

<http://www.ampleharvest.org/find-pantry.php>

Food Bus Food Recovery Toolkit

<http://foodbus.org/toolkit/>



## For California

Guidance on the Donation of Leftover Food from CA Dept. of Education

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/mbusdacnp042012.asp>

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