

Identifying Whole Grain-Rich

The USDA CACFP requires that at least one serving of grains each day contains a whole grain-rich component. Foods that meet the whole grain-rich criteria are foods that contain at least 50% whole grains and the remaining grains in the food are enriched, or are 100% whole grain.

Here are a few ways to help identify if a product is whole grain-rich. As long as the product meets **AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SIX METHODS**, described below, it is considered whole grain-rich.

#1 FOOD IS LABELED WHOLE WHEAT & MEETS FDA'S STANDARD OF IDENTITY

WGR¹

Certain bread and pasta products specifically labeled "Whole Wheat" on the package and which conform to an FDA Standard of Identity can be considered whole grain-rich.

An **FDA STANDARD OF IDENTITY** is a set of rules for what a certain product must contain or may contain to legally be labeled with that product name.

ONLY breads and pastas with these exact product names conform to FDA's Standard of Identity and can be considered whole grain-rich using this method:

BREADS

- whole wheat bread
- entire wheat bread
- graham bread
- whole wheat rolls
- entire wheat rolls
- graham rolls
- whole wheat buns
- entire wheat buns
- graham buns

PASTAS

- whole wheat macaroni
- whole wheat spaghetti
- whole wheat vermicelli
- whole wheat macaroni product



NOTE: Manufacturers may label their food with similar terms to FDA's Standard of Identity. Watch for terms such as, "whole grain," "made with whole grain," "made with whole wheat," or "contains whole grains." These terms do not indicate an FDA Standard of Identity for whole wheat products.

#2 FOOD IS FOUND ON ANY STATE AGENCY'S WIC-APPROVED WHOLE GRAIN FOOD LIST

WIC

Women • Infants • Children

The product is found on **ANY** State agency's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)-approved whole grain food list. Any grain product found on a State agency's WIC-approved whole grain food list meets CACFP whole grain-rich criteria.

NOTE: Complete product guides identifying all WIC creditable food products can be found on State agency websites.

WGR²

TEXAS **WIC**
**APPROVED FOODS
SHOPPING GUIDE**
SMART CHOICES • HEALTHY FAMILIES
Effective October 1, 2017



Sample WIC Shopping Guide

Identifying Whole Grain-Rich

#3

FDA STATEMENT

One of the following FDA statements is included on the labeling:

"Diets rich in whole grain foods and other plant foods and low in total fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol may reduce the risk of heart disease and some cancers."

"Diets rich in whole grain foods and other plant foods, and low in saturated fat and cholesterol, may help reduce the risk of heart disease."

FNS is allowing the FDA whole grain health claims to be sufficient documentation to demonstrate compliance with the whole grain-rich criteria in the CACFP, **ONLY**.

WGR³



#4

RULE OF THREE

The first ingredient (second if after water) must be whole grain, and the next two grain ingredients (if any) must be whole grains, enriched grains, bran, or germ. Any grain derivatives may be disregarded. Any non-creditable grain ingredients that are labeled 2% or less are considered insignificant and may also be disregarded.

(reference NCA's Identifying Grain Ingredients for list of creditable grains)

#1 Whole Grain

2nd Grain Ingredient

INGREDIENTS: Whole Wheat Flour, Enriched Wheat Flour (Flour, Niacin, Reduced Iron, Thiamine Mononitrate, Riboflavin, Folic Acid), Vegetable Oils (Canola And/ Or Sunflower), Cheddar Cheese ([Cultured Milk, Salt, Enzymes], Annatto), Salt, Contains 2 Percent Or Less Of: Yeast Extract, Natural Flavor, Paprika, Spices (Celery), Baking Soda, Monocalcium Phosphate, Dehydrated Onions, Annatto Extract For Color.
CONTAINS: WHEAT, MILK

There is no 3rd grain ingredient.

WGR⁴

DISREGARDED INGREDIENTS

Disregarded ingredients may be ignored, as these ingredients are not included in the rule of three. Grains that can be disregarded are either:

1. Any grain derivatives, such as wheat gluten, wheat starch, wheat dextrin, corn starch, corn dextrin, rice starch, tapioca starch, or modified food starch.
2. Any grain ingredients that are listed as "less than 2%..." of the product weight.

#1 Whole Grain

Grain Derivative

INGREDIENTS: Whole Wheat Flour, Filtered Water, Vital Wheat Gluten, Brown Sugar. Contains 2% Or Less Of The Following: Wheat Fiber, Cultured Wheat Starch, Vinegar, Inulin, Yeast, Oat Fiber, Soybean Oil, Salt, Soy Lecithin, Barley Malt Powder, Enzyme Blend (Wheat Flour, Dextrose, Natural Enzymes), Ascorbic Acid.

Listed after "Less than 2%..." statement

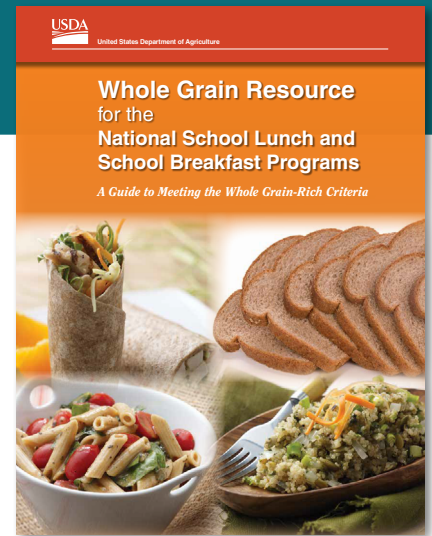


Identifying Whole Grain-Rich

#5 FOOD MEETS THE WHOLE GRAIN-RICH CRITERIA UNDER THE NSLP

Use of the National School Lunch Program whole grain-rich criteria may ease menu planning and purchasing for at-risk afterschool or CACFP child care programs. The NSLP whole grain-rich criteria apply for all grain products with the exception of grain-based desserts, which are not creditable under CACFP.

WGR⁵



Available to download at cacfp.org and the USDA FNS website.

#6 MANUFACTURER DOCUMENTATION OR STANDARDIZED RECIPE

Proper documentation from a manufacturer or a standardized recipe can also demonstrate that whole grains are the primary grain ingredient by weight.

WGR⁶

This guide is meant to be used to identify CACFP Creditable **WHOLE GRAIN-RICH** products.



What about cereal?

WGR^C

If a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal has a whole grain as the first ingredient (or second after water), and it is fortified, it also meets the whole grain-rich criteria.

#1 Whole Grain

INGREDIENTS: Whole Grain Oats, Corn Starch, Sugar, Salt, Tripotassium Phosphate, Vitamin E (Mixed Tocopherols) Added to Preserve Freshness.

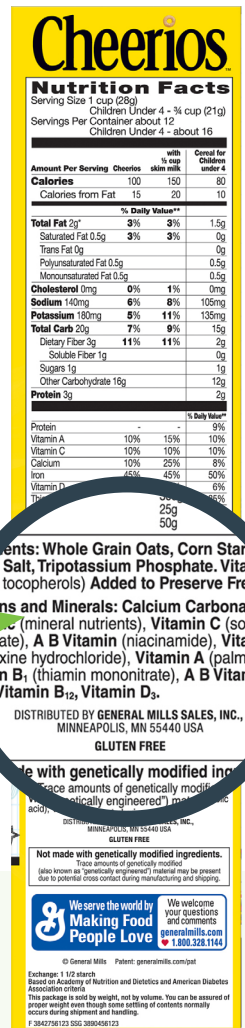
VITAMINS AND MINERALS: Calcium Carbonate, Iron and Zinc (Mineral Nutrients), Vitamin C (Sodium Ascorbate), a B Vitamin (Niacinamide), Vitamin B6 (Pyridoxine Hydrochloride), Vitamin A (Palmitate), Vitamin B1 (Thiamin Mononitrate), a B Vitamin (Folic Acid), Vitamin B12, Vitamin D3.

Fortified



Don't forget...

Not only does a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal have to meet the above criteria but it also has to meet the sugar limits in order to be creditable in the first place.



GRAINS 101



BRAN is the seed husk or outer coating of cereal grains such as wheat, rye, and oats. The bran can be mechanically removed from the flour or meal by sifting or bolting.

CREDITABLE GRAINS represents all of the grain ingredients in a product that are creditable towards the grains component; they include whole grains or enriched meal and/or flour.

ENRICHED means that the product conforms to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's, (FDA) Standard of Identity for levels of iron, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, and folic acid. The terms "enriched," "fortified," or similar terms indicate the addition of one or more vitamins or minerals or protein to a food, unless an applicable Federal regulation requires the use of specific words or statements.

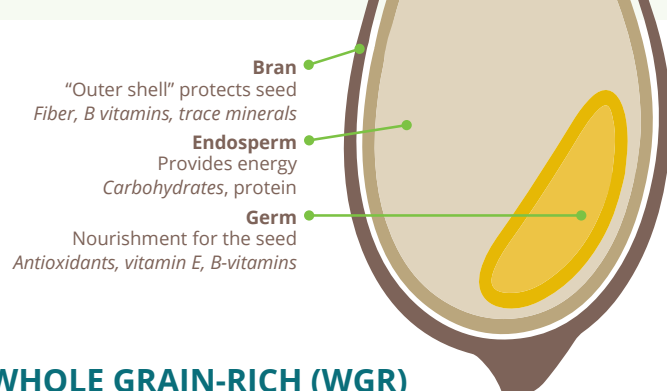
FLOUR is the product derived by finely grinding and bolting (sifting) wheat or other grains. Flour may be made from all grains (wheat, rye, corn, etc.).



GERM is the vitamin-rich embryo of the grain kernel. The germ can be separated before milling for use as a cereal or food supplement.

PRIMARY GRAIN INGREDIENT is the first grain ingredient listed in the ingredient statement.

WHOLE GRAIN contains all parts of the grain kernel which includes the bran, germ and endosperm.



WHOLE GRAIN-RICH (WGR)

is the term designated by USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to indicate that the grain components in a product are at least 50 percent whole grain, with the remaining grains being enriched. This term only refers to FNS criteria for meeting the grain requirements for CACFP.

Identifying Whole Grain-Rich



Identifying Grain Ingredients

WHOLE GRAINS

CORN

Whole Corn
Whole Grain Corn
Whole Grain Corn Flour

OATS

Instant Oatmeal
Oat Groats
Old Fashion Oats
Quick Cooking Oats
Steel Cut Oats
Whole Grain Oat Flour

RICE

Brown Rice
Sprouted Brown Rice
Wild Rice

RYE

Rye Groats
Sprouted Whole Rye
Whole Rye Flour

WHEAT

Bulgur
Cracked Wheat
Graham Flour
Sprouted Whole Wheat
Wheat Berries
Wheat Groats
Whole Durum Flour
Whole Grain Wheat Flakes
Whole Wheat Flour

OTHER WHOLE GRAINS

Amaranth
Amaranth Flour
Buckwheat
Buckwheat Flour
Buckwheat Groats
Millet
Millet Flour
Quinoa
Sorghum
Sorghum Flour
Spelt Berries
Sprouted Buckwheat
Sprouted Einkorn
Sprouted Spelt
Teff
Teff Flour
Triticale
Triticale Flour
Whole Einkorn Berries
Whole Grain Einkorn Flour
Whole Grain Spelt Flour

CREDITABLE GRAINS

- Any Whole Grain Above
- Enriched Grains
- Bran or Germ

*Creditable in CACFP, SFSP
& afterschool snacks only.*

These ingredients are not whole nor enriched and cannot be one of the first 3 ingredients when identifying whole grain-rich products.

NON-CREDITABLE GRAINS

Barley Malt
Corn
Corn Fiber
Degerminated Corn Meal
Farina
Oat Fiber
Semolina
Yellow Corn Meal

NON-CREDITABLE FLOURS

not enriched

Any Bean Flour
Any Nut Flour
Bromated Flour
Durum Flour
Malted Barley Flour
Potato Flour
Rice Flour
Wheat Flour
White Flour
Yellow Corn Flour

DISREGARDED INGREDIENTS

Disregarded ingredients may be ignored, as these ingredients are not included in the rule of three. Grains that can be disregarded are either:

1. Any grain ingredients that are listed as "less than 2%..." of the product weight.
2. Any grain derivatives, such as wheat gluten, wheat starch, wheat dextrin, corn starch, corn dextrin, rice starch, tapioca starch, or modified food starch.

Please note that this list is not meant to be exhaustive, and there may be other items that qualify, or are not creditable, that are not listed above. Check with your sponsor and/or state agency.



Identifying Whole Grain-Rich

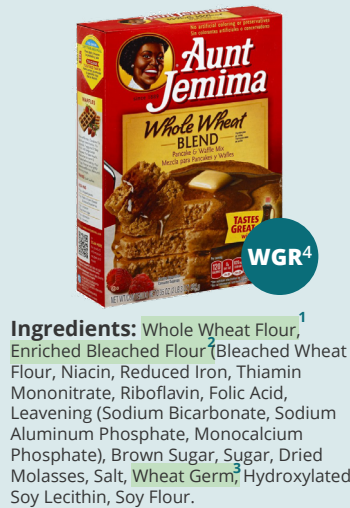
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FOOD IS LABELED AS "WHOLE WHEAT" AND MEETS FDA STANDARD OF IDENTITY



RULE OF THREE

The first ingredient (second after water) must be whole grain, and the next two grain ingredients (if any) must be whole grains, enriched grains, bran, or germ.



CEREAL 1st grain ingredient must be whole grain and cereal is fortified with Vitamins & Minerals.



Visit us at www.cacfp.org for more information. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

* These products may meet another standard for identifying whole grain-rich but do not in the section noted.



Identifying Cereal Sugar Limits



Here are three ways to determine if a breakfast cereal is within the CACFP sugar limit. As long as a breakfast cereal meets the sugar limit using **AT LEAST ONE OF THESE METHODS** described below, it is considered within the sugar limit.

1 WIC

Women • Infants • Children

Use your State agency's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) approved breakfast cereal list.

* confirm with your states WIC approved cereal list.

Product Example:
Dora the Explorer



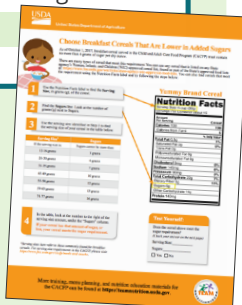
2

Use USDA's Team Nutrition training worksheet "Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Low in Added Sugar."

The worksheet includes a chart with common breakfast cereal serving sizes and the maximum amount of sugar the breakfast cereal may contain per serving.

ALLOWABLE SUGAR LIMITS

SERVING SIZE	SUGARS
If the serving size is:	cannot be more than:
8-11 grams	2 grams
12-16 grams	3 grams
17-21 grams	4 grams
22-25 grams	5 grams
26-30 grams	6 grams
31-35 grams	7 grams
36-40 grams	8 grams
41-44 grams	9 grams
45-49 grams	10 grams
50-54 grams	11 grams
55-58 grams	12 grams
59-63 grams	13 grams
64-68 grams	14 grams
69-73 grams	15 grams
74-77 grams	
78-82 grams	



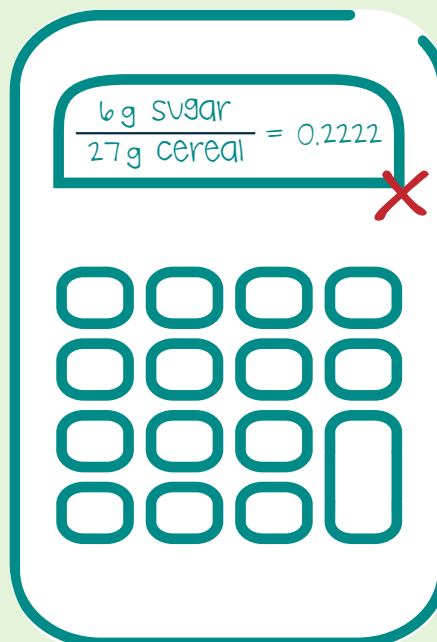
3

Use the Nutrition Facts label on the breakfast cereal packaging to calculate the sugar content per dry ounce.

1) Find the serving size in grams at the top of the label and the sugars listed towards the middle.

2) Divide the total sugars by the serving size in grams.

If the answer is equal to or less than 0.212, then the cereal is within the required sugar limit and may be creditable in CACFP.



GRAMS OF SUGAR PER SERVING if ≤ 0.212
GRAMS OF CEREAL PER SERVING it is creditable



(https://www.fns.usda.gov/tncacfp-meal-pattern-training-tools)

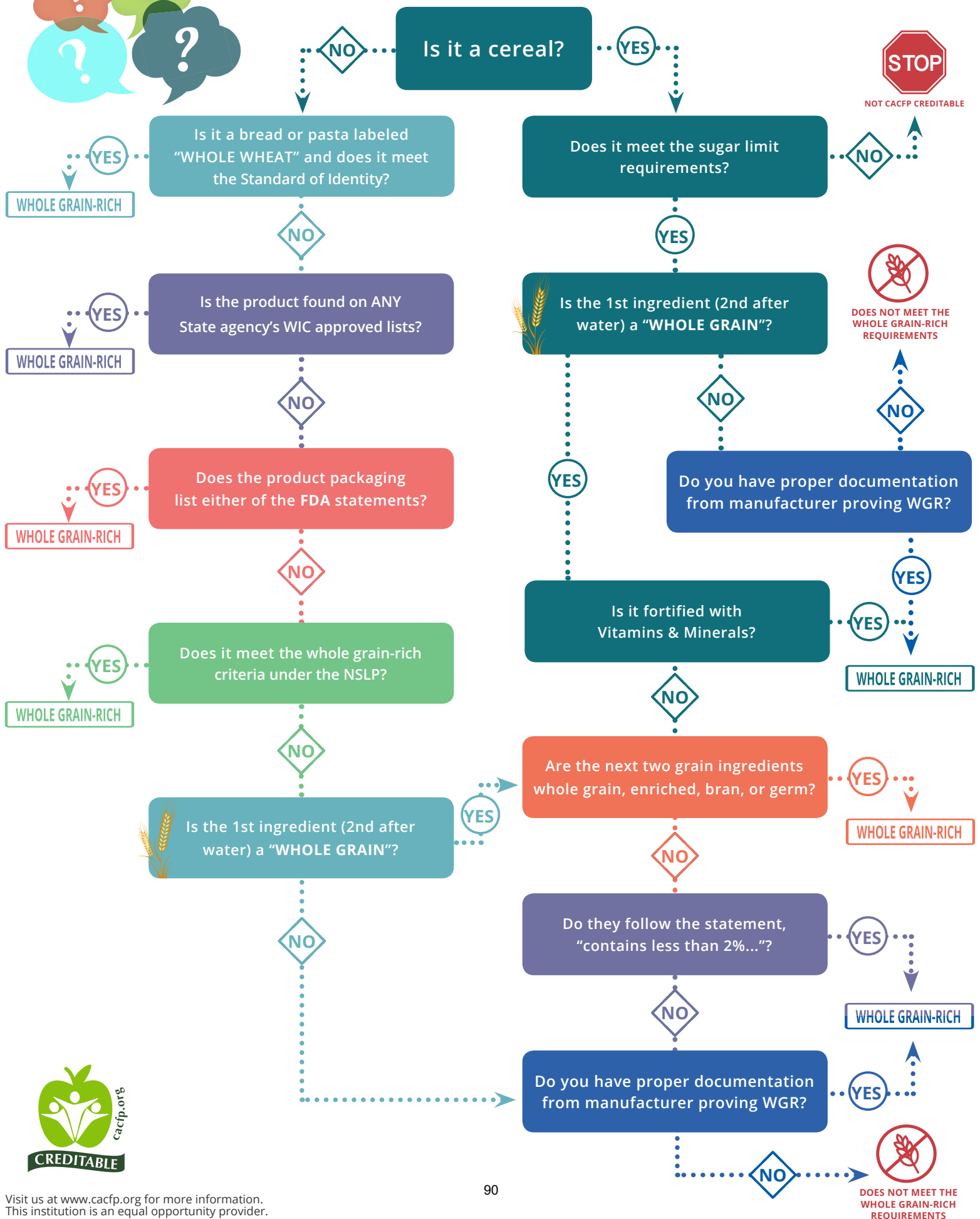
Product Example: Dora the Explorer meets one of the three methods, therefore, this product is CACFP creditable.

Disclosure: The amount of sugar in a cereal might change. Even if you always buy the same brands and types of cereal, be sure to check the serving size and amount of sugars on the Nutrition Facts label to make sure they match what you have written in the list above. All cereals served must be whole grain-rich, enriched or fortified.

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Wondering if your food is **WHOLE GRAIN-RICH**?



Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Foods for the Child and Adult Care Food Program Using the Ingredient List

The **ingredient list** is printed on the food packaging of products. This list includes information on flours, grains, and other ingredients that are in the product. On the ingredient list, the ingredients are listed in order of quantity. If a whole grain is listed first, you know there is more of that whole grain than anything else in the food.

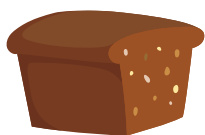
In the United States Department of Agriculture's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), you can identify grains that are whole grain-rich by looking at the first three **grain** ingredients that appear on the ingredient list. This method is known as the *Rule of Three*. If the ingredient list does not include three grain ingredients, you only have to look at the grain ingredients that are present. Some whole grain-rich foods may have only one grain ingredient.

In the CACFP, at least one offering of grains per day must be whole grain-rich for children and adults.*

Step-by-Step Guide To Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Foods Using the *Rule of Three*

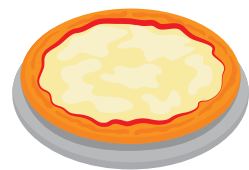


STEP 1 Find the ingredient list



This ingredient list is for **bread**. In this example, you would look at the full ingredient list to determine if the bread is whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Whole-wheat flour, water, yeast, brown sugar, wheat gluten, contains 2% or less of each of the following: salt, dough conditioners, soybean oil, vinegar, cultured wheat flour, citric acid.



The ingredient list shown here is for a frozen **cheese pizza**. Because pizza is a combination food, the ingredients for all the foods within the cheese pizza, such as the crust, cheese, and sauce, are listed within one ingredient list. In this example, you would look at the ingredients for the crust, to determine if the grain component of this food is whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.
Shredded mozzarella cheese: Pasteurized part skim milk, cheese cultures, salt, enzymes. **Sauce:** Water, tomato paste, pizza seasoning, modified food starch.

*During the COVID-19 public health emergency, some State agencies may have opted into School Year 2021-2022 meal pattern waivers. Additional information on these waivers is available at: fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/cn-2021-22-waivers-and-flexibilities.

STEP 2 Simplify the ingredient list

Look at the “Disregarded Ingredients” list below. Do not consider these ingredients. Some sound like grains, so it can be helpful to cross them out at the beginning.

Disregarded Ingredients:

- Cellulose fiber
- Corn dextrin
- Corn starch
- Modified food starch
- Rice starch
- Tapioca starch
- Water
- Wheat dextrin
- Wheat gluten
- Wheat starch
- Any ingredients that appear after the phrase, “Contains 2% or less of...” or “Contains less than 2% of...”

INGREDIENTS: Crust: Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, ~~water~~, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, ~~wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.~~

▲ This ingredient list shows some ingredients that can be crossed out to simplify the list.

STEP 3 Look at the first ingredient

If you have a combination food, like a pizza, look at the part of the ingredient list that refers to the grain product. For this food, the grain product is the pizza crust.

Is the first ingredient a **whole-grain ingredient**?

YES ✓

If the first ingredient is whole-grain and the food is not a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal, **go to Step 4 on page 3.**

YES ✓

If the first ingredient is whole-grain and the food is a ready-to-eat breakfast cereal, **see “Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Breakfast Cereals in the CACFP” on page 7.**

NO ✗

If the first ingredient is not a whole-grain ingredient, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

NO ✗

It is possible that the food includes several whole-grain ingredients. When added together, these grains may meet the whole grain-rich requirement. In this case, you would need to request additional information from the manufacturer.



See the **Whole-Grain Ingredients** chart on page 5 for some common whole grains. Make sure the first grain ingredient is not listed on the **Enriched Grain Ingredients, Bran or Germ Ingredients, or Non-Creditable Grains or Flours** charts on page 6.

INGREDIENTS: Crust: **Whole-wheat flour,** enriched wheat flour (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, ~~water~~, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, ~~wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.~~

▲ The first grain ingredient is “**whole-wheat flour**,” which is a **whole-grain ingredient**.



*This food might be creditable as a grain that is not being served as a whole grain-rich food. See the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (<https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov>) for information on how to determine if an enriched grain is creditable towards the grain component in the CACFP.

STEP 4 Look for the second grain ingredient

Does the food have another grain ingredient?

NO X

If the food does not have any other grain ingredients, you can **stop here**. The food is whole grain-rich!

YES ✓

If so, is the second grain ingredient **whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ**? Make sure the second grain ingredient is not listed on the “*Non-Creditable Grains or Flours*” chart.

YES ✓

If the second grain ingredient is whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, **go to Step 5 below**.

NO X

If the second grain ingredient is **not** whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

INGREDIENTS: Crust: **Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour** (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), wheat bran, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, ~~wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.~~

▲ The second grain ingredient is “**enriched wheat flour**,” which is an **enriched grain ingredient**. For information on flour made from more than one grain ingredient, see “Focus on Flour Blends” on page 4.

STEP 5 Look for the third grain ingredient

Does the food have a third grain ingredient?

NO X

If the food does not have any other grain ingredients, you can **stop here**. The food is whole grain-rich!

YES ✓

If so, is the third grain ingredient **whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ**? Make sure the third grain ingredient is not listed on the “*Non-Creditable Grains or Flours*” chart.

YES ✓

If the third grain ingredient is whole-grain, enriched, or bran or germ, then this food is whole grain-rich! If your product has other grain ingredients, such as a fourth grain ingredient, you do not need to consider them.

NO X

If the third grain ingredient is not whole-grain, enriched, bran, or germ, then this food is not creditable as a whole grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

INGREDIENTS: Crust: **Whole-wheat flour, enriched wheat flour** (bleached wheat flour, malted barley flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), **wheat bran**, water, soybean oil, dextrose, baking powder, yeast, salt, dough conditioners, ~~wheat gluten, contains less than 2% of each of the following: vegetable shortening, sesame flour, preservatives.~~

▲ The third grain ingredient is “**wheat bran**,” which is a type of bran.

✓ This pizza crust is considered whole grain-rich because the first ingredient is **whole-grain**, the second grain ingredient is **enriched**, and the third ingredient is a type of **bran**.

Focus on Flour Blends

You may see an ingredient list that includes a flour blend as an ingredient. The flour blend will be followed by a list of sub-ingredients that make up the flour blend. These sub-ingredients are shown in parenthesis. Treat these flour blends as one grain ingredient when applying the *Rule of Three*.

Find the first ingredient on the ingredient list.

If the first ingredient is a flour blend, all the ingredients in the flour blend must be whole-grain.

You can now proceed with examining the second and third grain ingredients as described on pages 2 and 3.

If the flour blend is the second or third grain ingredient, then the flour blend may be made up of whole grains, enriched grains, bran, and/or germ.



If the flour blend includes any non-creditable flours or grains, then the flour blend is not a creditable grain ingredient.

INGREDIENTS: **Whole grain flour** (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour), water, **flour blend** (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran), yeast, salt.

▲ This is an ingredient list for bread. This bread includes two flour blends: whole grain flour and a flour blend.

The list of sub-ingredients in parenthesis tells you what grains are in the whole grain flour and the flour blend.

INGREDIENTS: **Whole grain flour** (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour), water, flour blend (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran), yeast, salt.

▲ The whole grain flour is the first ingredient on this ingredient list.

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain flour (**whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour**), water, flour blend (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran), yeast, salt.

▲ The ingredients in the whole grain flour are whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, and whole grain oat flour.

All the ingredients in the whole grain flour are whole-grain, so the whole grain flour is considered whole grain-rich.

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain flour (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour), water, **flour blend** (graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran), yeast, salt.

▲ The second grain ingredient in this bread is the flour blend.

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain flour (whole-wheat flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour), water, flour blend (**graham flour, enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour, wheat bran**), yeast, salt.

▲ The flour blend contains whole-grain ingredients (graham flour), enriched ingredients (enriched wheat flour, enriched corn flour) and bran (wheat bran).

This bread does not have a third grain ingredient.

✓ This bread is considered whole grain-rich because the first ingredient is whole-grain and the second grain ingredient is made from whole-grain, enriched, and bran ingredients.

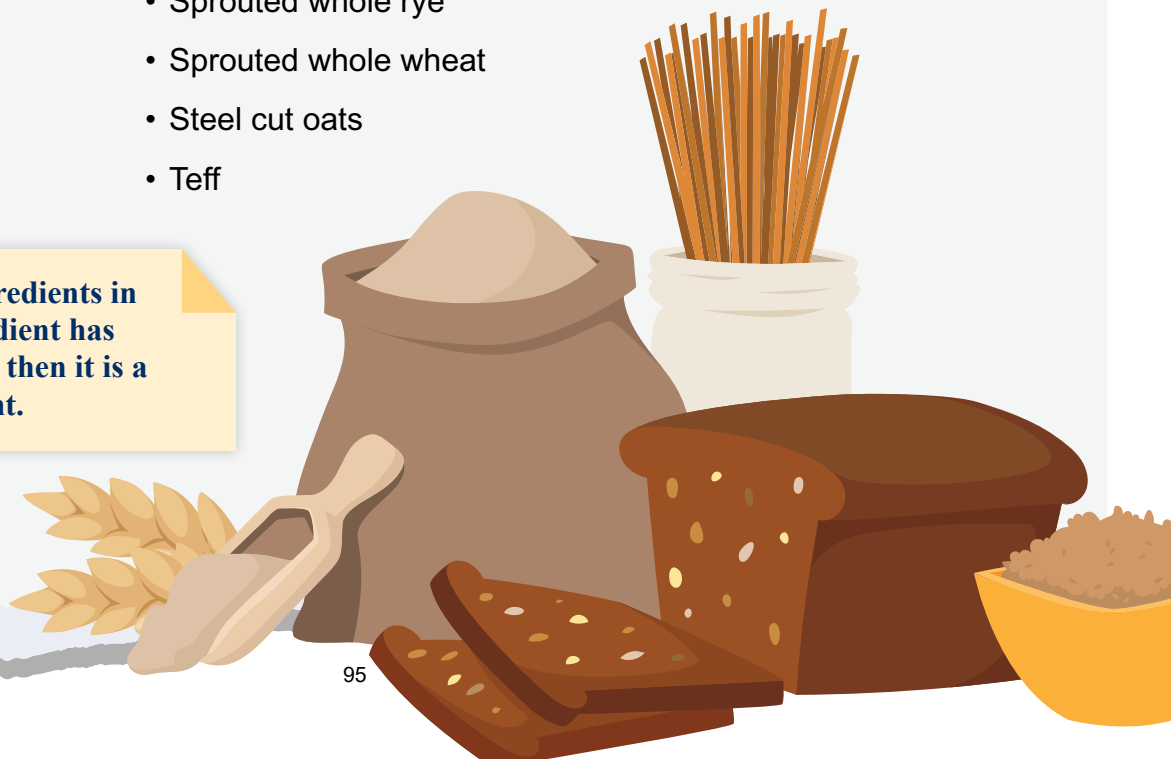
INGREDIENTS: Flour blend (durum flour, bromated flour, brown rice flour), water, salt.

✗ This flour blend includes two non-creditable flours (durum flour and bromated flour), so the flour blend is not a creditable grain ingredient.

Whole-Grain Ingredients

- Amaranth
- Amaranth flour
- Brown rice
- Brown rice flour
- Buckwheat
- Buckwheat flour
- Buckwheat groats
- Bulgur
- Corn masa
- Corn treated with lime
- Cracked wheat
- Crushed wheat
- Dehulled barley
- Dehulled-barley flour
- Entire wheat flour
- Flaked rye
- Flaked wheat
- Graham flour
- Hominy
- Hominy grits
- Instant oatmeal
- Masa harina
- Millet
- Millet flour
- Nixtamalized corn flour/meal
- Oat groats
- Oats/oatmeal
- Old fashioned oats
- Popcorn
- Quick cooking oats
- Quinoa
- Rye berries
- Rye groats
- Sorghum
- Sorghum flour
- Spelt berries
- Sprouted brown rice
- Sprouted buckwheat
- Sprouted einkorn
- Sprouted spelt
- Sprouted wheat
- Sprouted whole rye
- Sprouted whole wheat
- Steel cut oats
- Teff
- Teff flour
- Triticale
- Triticale flour
- Wheat berries
- Wheat groats
- White whole wheat flour
- Whole corn
- Whole durum flour
- Whole grain corn
- Whole grain corn flour
- Whole grain oat flour
- Whole grain spelt flour
- Whole grain wheat
- Whole grain wheat flakes
- Whole grain wheat flour
- Whole rye flour
- Whole wheat flour
- Wild rice
- Wild rice flour

In addition to the ingredients in this chart, if an ingredient has “whole” in front of it, then it is a whole-grain ingredient.



Enriched Grain Ingredients

- Enriched bromated flour
- Enriched corn flour
- Enriched durum flour
- Enriched durum wheat flour
- Enriched farina
- Enriched grits
- Enriched rice
- Enriched rice flour
- Enriched rye flour
- Enriched wheat flour
- Enriched white flour
- Other grains with the word “enriched” in front of it.

In addition to the ingredients listed above, if the ingredient list states or includes the nutrients used to enrich the flour, then your product has enriched grains. For example, an ingredient list might read: “Durum flour (niacin, iron, riboflavin, folic acid, thiamin).” The nutrients listed in the parenthesis indicate that the durum flour is enriched.



Bran or Germ Ingredients

- Corn bran
- Oat bran
- Rice bran
- Rye bran
- Wheat bran
- Wheat germ

Non-Creditable Grains or Flours

These foods cannot be one of the first three ingredients for whole grain-rich items.

- Barley malt
- Bean or legume flour (such as soy, chickpea, lentil, etc.)
- Bromated flour
- Corn
- Corn fiber
- Degermed corn
- Degerminated corn meal
- Durum flour
- Farina
- Grits
- Malted barley flour
- Nut or seed flour (any kind)
- Oat fiber
- Potato flour
- Rice flour
- Semolina
- Stone ground corn
- Tapioca flour
- Vegetable flour (any kind)
- Wheat flour
- White flour
- Yellow corn flour
- Yellow corn meal

Identifying Whole Grain-Rich Breakfast Cereals in the CACFP



For ready-to-eat breakfast cereals only, if the first ingredient is whole-grain, and the cereal is fortified, then the cereal is whole grain-rich in the CACFP.

Remember to check that the cereal also meets the CACFP sugar limit. For more information on sugar limits for cereal, see “Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Sugar” at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-worksheets-cacfp>.

To determine if a ready-to-eat cereal is whole grain-rich:

STEP 1 Look at the first ingredient

Is the first ingredient a whole-grain ingredient?

YES ✓

If the first ingredient is whole-grain, go to Step 2.

NO ✗

If the first ingredient is not a whole grain, then this food is not creditable as a whole-grain-rich food in the CACFP using the *Rule of Three*.*

STEP 2 Look for fortification

Is the cereal fortified?

Look for the words “fortified” on the food package. You can also look at the ingredient list to see if it lists any vitamins and minerals that have been added to the product. Cereals that are not fortified would not have any added vitamins and minerals.

YES ✓

If the cereal is fortified, then this food is whole grain-rich! If your cereal has other grain ingredients, you do not need to consider them. See **Example 1**.

NO ✗

If the cereal has a whole grain as the first ingredient, but is not fortified, then follow the *Rule of Three* instructions on pages 1-3 to look at the second and third grain ingredients. See **Example 2**.

Example 1

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain oat flour¹, corn flour, sugar, salt, tripotassium phosphate, vitamin E. **Vitamins and Minerals**²: calcium carbonate, iron and zinc, vitamin C, vitamin B6, vitamin A, vitamin B12.

- ▲ 1. The first ingredient is “**whole grain oat flour**,” which is a **whole-grain ingredient**.
- 2. The presence of “**Vitamins and Minerals**” on the ingredient list indicates that this cereal is fortified.
- ✓ This breakfast cereal is whole grain-rich because the first ingredient is **whole-grain** and the cereal is **fortified**.

Example 2

INGREDIENTS: Whole grain wheat¹, wheat bran³, raisins, oat fiber⁴, sea salt.

- ▲ 1. The first ingredient is “**whole grain wheat**,” which is a **whole-grain ingredient**.
- 2. This food is not fortified. There are no vitamins and minerals on the ingredient list. Look at the second and third grain ingredients to see if the cereal is whole grain-rich.
- 3. The second grain ingredient is **wheat bran**, which is a type of **bran**.
- 4. The third grain ingredient is **oat fiber**, which is a **non-creditable ingredient**.
- ✗ This breakfast cereal is not whole grain-rich using the Rule of Three because the third grain ingredient is a non-creditable ingredient.

Try It Out!

Look at the ingredient lists for the grain items below. Use the *Rule of Three* to determine if these items are whole grain-rich. Why or why not?

A

Crackers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why or why not? _____



INGREDIENTS: Whole grain wheat flour, vegetable oil, enriched rye flour, cracked wheat.

B

Bread: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Why or why not? _____



INGREDIENTS: Flour blend (enriched flour, brown rice flour, whole grain oat flour), water, whole grain flour blend (graham flour, whole grain corn flour), wheat bran, yeast, salt.

C

Ready-to-Eat Cereal:

☐ Yes ☐ No

Why or why not? _____



INGREDIENTS: Whole grain corn, corn meal, sugar, corn bran, salt, brown sugar syrup. Vitamins and Minerals: calcium carbonate, iron, zinc, vitamin C, vitamin B6, vitamin B2, vitamin A, vitamin B12.

Answer Key:

A

Yes, these crackers are whole grain-rich.

B

No, the bread is not whole grain-rich.

C

Yes, this ready-to-eat cereal is whole grain-rich.

the grain ingredients in the flour blend must be whole-grain. Enriched flour is not a whole-grain ingredient.

1. The first ingredient in this bread is a flour blend that contains enriched flour. If the first ingredient is a flour blend, all

3. The third grain ingredient is cracked wheat, which is a whole-grain ingredient.

2. The second grain ingredient is enriched rye flour, which is an enriched ingredient.

1. The first grain ingredient is whole grain wheat flour, which is a whole-grain ingredient.

2. The presence of "Vitamins and Minerals" on the ingredient list indicates that this cereal is fortified.