

Houston County Schools Food Service Department

Offer versus Serve

Under Offer versus Serve, students are allowed to take less than the planned portions of the otherwise declined menu items. The required menu items taken by students must be a full serving. The decision to decline the allowed number of menu items or to accept smaller portions of otherwise declined menu items does not affect the charge for the meal. The menu planner establishes what constitutes a “serving” for each menu item. Senior high schools are required to have Offer versus Serve for lunch.

Lunch

With nutrient standard menu planning, Offer versus Serve works as follows for lunch.

- At least three menu items must be offered: an entrée, fluid milk, and a side dish.
- Students must select at least two of the three menu items. One of the two menu items selected **must be an entrée**.
- If more than three menu items are offered as a meal unit, students may decline no more than two menu items of the meal unit. Students can never decline the entrée.

Breakfast

Offer versus Serve is optional at breakfast. Students may decline a maximum of one menu item out of the three or more menu items offered.