



DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY
HEADQUARTERS
1300 E AVENUE
FORT GREGG-ADAMS, VIRGINIA 23801-1800

MPSG

June 2, 2023

NOTICE TO THE TRADE – DECA NOTICE 23-63

SUBJECT: Thinking Outside the Box 2024, Display Periods 1-13

The purpose of this notice is to provide Industry with the following Thinking Outside the Box (TOTB) 2024 Meal Solutions for display periods 1-13. Please refer to the attached Excel Workbook to review each worksheet. The Display Periods (DP) 1-13 have an assigned worksheet that provides information on the items being requested, the nutrition education theme, as well as a featured nutrition attribute. Also annotated in the worksheets are the desired size for various items. When a size is annotated, the exact size is not required, however the closest approximate amount is requested. The remaining TOTB meals to support DP 14-26 are under development and will be released by October 31, 2023.

The TOTB program encompasses Dietitian approved meals and supports teaching military members and their families how to prepare more meals at home, with commissary products, while assisting with increasing sales and identifying ways to combine food items for a nutritious meal. The goal of the program is to assist with increasing lift of items in partnership with industry for not only the promotion period but also moving out, as the meal has the dietitian approved seal. Selected products will be featured throughout DP 1-26 and will be promoted in the Commissary Sales Flyer under the Dietitian Approved Meal Solution, on Click2Go, and on our social media sites. It is important to note that the featured TOTB meal solution is shared multiple times by various DOD partners.

Stakeholders throughout the force use DeCA's health and wellness resources to promote a healthy eating pattern and encourage use of the commissary. The 2024 TOTB Meal Solutions program features all categories of items. Eligible products for meal solutions include a combination of both nutrient dense, high performance foods and items that may be of lesser nutrition quality. However, when combining all of the items to make a meal, the overall meal meets dietitian approved criteria. Once the promotion period has ended, the recipe will remain on commissaries.com for use in Click2Go. Patrons utilizing Click2Go will be able to choose the ingredients for the recipe and place an order. This feature is key in assisting patrons with their on-line shopping experience in meal planning on a budget.

Industry representatives are encouraged to review the following TOTB meal solutions requested items list and submit selected promotional products that may include price reductions for each DP in accordance with 2024 Regular DP deadline dates. Submit product selections using the 889 and include in the Memo section 'TOTB' for Category Management review. Products submitted for review will consider vendor price reductions and the most favorable nutritional matches. Each vendor may provide product submissions for all products in the meal solution recipes for each DP or individual products may be submitted for each DP. Please ensure items are active when sending for TOTB, as P codes will not be accepted. Also consider

PROUD, COMMITTED AND MORE.

submitting items with RSL's of K1 and K2. This helps in allowing most, if not all, of the stores to participate and display the selected TOTB items. Submitting only K3 and above items minimizes the stores that can participate and display the full TOTB recipe items.

Industry representatives are encouraged to promote selected TOTB products with in-store demo's, coupons, shelf-talkers, and through social media.

The point of contact for this notice is Ms. Deborah Harris, deborah.harris2@deca.mil, (804)734-8000 extension 48751.

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Bonita M. Moffett
Director of Sales

Attachments

As stated

cc:

Logistics

Store Operations

Area Directors

Zone Managers

Store Directors

DP 1 Grandma's Hamburger Soup
 Family Fit Lifestyle Month
 Whole grain
 Filling Fiber

link <https://commissaries.com/recipes/grandmas-hamburger-vegetable-soup>

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
olive oil	16-20 oz.				
low sodium beef broth	14-15 oz				
low sodium beef bouillon					
canned sliced carrots	14-15 oz.				
canned no salt added or low sodium green beans	14-15 oz.				
dried basil	any size				
whole wheat pasta, and shape	8-16 oz. box				

DP 2 No Cook 48-Hour Steel Cut Oats
 Family Fit Lifestyle Month
 Fuel the Day/ Complex Carbs/ Filling Fiber

Link <https://commissaries.com/recipes/no-cook-48-hour-steel-cut-oats>

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Steel Cut Oats	20- 40 oz container				
Unsweetened Almond Milk	32--64 oz. carton				
unsweetened applesauce	24-46 oz. container				
unsweetened applesauce	6 oz 4-6 count cups				
sugar-free instant pudding (lemon, vanilla, cheesecake)	1.5 oz. box				
ground cinnamon	any size				
chia seeds	8-32 oz. package				

DP 3

Heart Health Month
Sources of Omega 3 Fatty Acids

link [Salmon Burgers and Salad | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
canned salmon	4-14.5 oz.				
dried basil	any size				
whole wheat crackers (any variety)					
sliced cheese (any variety)	8 oz.				
mandarin oranges - in juice- no added sugar	16-25 oz. Can				
dried basil	any size				
balsamic vinaigrette dressing (any type)	16 oz.				
walnuts (chopped or whole/shelled)	7-16 oz. bag				

DP 4

Tuna Couscous Salad
Heart Healthy Month
Healthy Fats
Filling Fiber

link [Tuna Couscous Salad | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Canned tuna in water	5 oz. can				
Couscous	5-6 oz box				
Peppercinis	12 oz.				
Lemon juice	any size				
slice olives	2-3 o. can				
Grape tomatoes	any size				
walnuts (chopped) or slivered almonds	2-10 oz. package				

DP 5 Make a MyPlate of Nachos
 National Nutrition Month
 Eat a variety of foods, Nutrition Quality
 A Healthy Eating Pattern does not mean "Perfect Eating" or good and bad

link [Make a MyPlate of Nachos | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
ground turkey, frozen or fresh (lean)	16 oz.				
low sodium beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.	14-15 oz. can				
dried cumin	any size				
whole grain/multi grain chips or low fat low sodium tortilla chips	8-13 oz bag				
shredded cheese	8 oz.				
nonfat or any level of fat plain Greek yogurt	any size				
salsa	any size				

DP 6 Easy and Quick Chicken Dumplings
 Nation Frozen Food Month
 All vegetables count and from scratch is easy

link <https://commissaries.com/recipes/chicken-and-quick-dumplings>

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Frozen boneless chicken breast	2-5 lb. bag				
low sodium chicken broth	32 oz. can				
low sodium chicken bouillon	any size				
white all purpose flour	1-5 pounds				
white vinegar	12-16 oz				
baking soda	any size				
frozen mixed vegetables	10-16 oz bag				

DP 7 Kids and Adults Approved Mac & Cheese
 Nation Frozen Food Month
 All vegetables count and from scratch is easy

link [Quick Stovetop Tuna Mac | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
canned tuna (any variety)	5 oz. can				
whole wheat pasta (any variety)	8 oz- 32 oz package/box				
ground mustard	any size				
unsalted butter	any size				
frozen broccoli	any size				
cheddar cheese	at least 8 oz				
nonfat evaporated milk	12 oz. can				

DP 8 ABC Brownies
 Month of the Military Child
 Moderation, recommended added sugar per day limit, nutritious subs

link [Double A Brownies \(Avocado and Applesauce\) | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
cocoa powder	any size				
apple sauce unsweetened	any size				
dark chocolate chip or bars	any size				
flour	any size				
canned black beans low sodium	15 oz				
cooking spray	any size				
baking soda	any size				

DP 9

Asian Pacific Heritage Month
Sodium and good sources of protein

link [Asian Lettuce Wraps | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Hoisin sauce	any size				
Low-sodium soy sauce	any size				
Bamboo shoots	any size				
Watercress, canned	any size				
Matchstick carrots	any size				
Instant brown rice	any size				

DP10 Quick and Easy "Peanutty" Pork Lo Mein
Military Appreciation Month
Quick Pantry Staple Week Night Meals

link [Quick and Easy "Peanutty" Pork Lo Mein | Commissaries](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size_Actual	UPC
whole wheat noodles (spaghetti or fettuccine)	8 to 16 oz. box				
orange juice	any size any type				
Bamboo shoots	any size				
water chesnuts	any size				
peanut butter	any size				
sesame oil	any size				
low sodium soy sauce	any size				
minced garlic, jarred	any size				

DP11 Cowboy Caviar
 Memorial Day/Healthy Life Style Festivals
 Big Batch "Sides" to Mix up to Entrée's

link [Recipe has yet to be posted. Link needs to be added before NTT](#)

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Canned corn	14-16 oz				
Canned black beans low sodium	14-16 oz				
Lime juice	any size--small is best				
Nonfat Greek yogurt	any size--small is best				
Multigrain tortilla chips	10-16 oz. bag				
Onion/garlic powder	any size--small is best				
Canned dice tomatoes with jalapenos	10-15 oz.				

DP12 Stuffed Peppers
 Healthy Life Style Festival/Father's Day
 Various kinds of Protein-Mix and Match to Meet Needs

link <https://commissaries.com/recipes/stuffed-peppers>

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size Actual	UPC
Aluminum Foil					
Quinoa or instant brown rice					
canned bean (pinto, black, or kidney)					
ground turkey (frozen, tube)					
low sodium diced or stewed tomatoes					
tomato sauce					
shredded cheese					

DP 13 Stretch Your Dollar Crab Cakes-
Healthy Life Style Festival/Father's Day
spice and econmic switches to up nutiriton quality and flavor

link <https://commissaries.com/recipes/stretch-food-dollar-crab-cake-salad>

Suggested	Size	Actual	Brand	Size_Actual	UPC
canned white crab	6-12 oz.				
albacore tuna (in water)	5-6 oz.				
plain bread crumbs (perferably whole wheat or panko)	box				
Dijon Mustard					
nonfat Greek Yogurt	6-32 oz				
hot sauce					
canola oil					