



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND NUTRITION
NEW PRODUCT TESTING AND EVALUATION**



Vendors interested in submitting food products for consideration by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Department of Food and Nutrition must do the following:

Step 1

Manufacturer, Broker and/or distributor must submit to Attn: Director of Food and Menu Management, the Department of Food and Nutrition, Food Planning and Production Test Kitchen, 7042 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33144, the following information:

1. Ingredient label
2. Nutrition Facts Label
3. Portion size, unit and case size
4. A copy of the product data sheet and food label including the manufacturer's code number and establishment number of the manufacturer if a meat product
5. Child Nutrition (CN) label, if applicable
6. Meal pattern contribution to USDA National School Lunch or Breakfast Program
7. Pricing scale

Step 2:

If requested for the product to be reviewed:

1. A full-case sample from a production line, not a specially made sample, is to be submitted to the Department of Food and Nutrition, Food Planning and Production Test Kitchen, 7042 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33144
2. Sample must have a food label imprinted on packaging and the date/shift coding.
3. Sample is to be marked with – (1) Vendor's name, (2) Bid number as applicable (3) Item number as applicable (4) Product brand name and number(s) (5) grade/portion and case size.
4. Product(s) will be screened based upon appearance in the raw and cooked state for acceptability of shape, texture, color, smell, plate coverage and availability of recommended preparation equipment.
5. Storage, handling and cooking directions.
6. Appointments for sample submissions may be made by contacting Ms. Susan Rothstein, Director at 786-275-0400.

Step 3

If requested by the Department of Food and Nutrition for Student Taste Test/Evaluation at designated school site(s):

1. Full sample case(s) from a production line will be delivered to designated testing sites. Samples are to be the same as the items submitted for the Appearance Screen.
2. Product(s) will be tested/evaluated at all test sites.
3. Food products will be rated by students as acceptable or unacceptable using a hedonic scale.

Samples: Samples must be provided at no cost to Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The Department of Food and Nutrition and/or Miami-Dade County Public Schools will assume no cost incident thereto.

The Department of Food and Nutrition is not obligated to acknowledge and/or review and/or test any unsolicited food item that is mailed and/or delivered to the department. Additionally, we are not obligated to respond to unsolicited emails, phone calls, flyers or advertisements or selling any item.