

Supervision of Share Tables

Share tables must be supervised by a responsible person who is educated on food safety principles. The person overseeing the share tables at middle or high schools may be students who volunteer for the task. This person will be responsible for ensuring that only those foods that are allowed are placed on the share table and that edible flesh fruits (ie. Apples) are separated so that they can be sent back to the kitchen for washing.

Food Safety at Share Tables

Because of the short time limitations of school lunch periods, food safety concerns are lessened in some aspects. Schools can elect to address food safety concerns by either maintaining temperature control throughout the "life" of the food product or choose to use the time-temperature relationship using short time durations under ambient temperatures instead of stricter temperature controls. Both options are discussed below and can be used to fit the LEA's needs.

Strict Temperature Control

Unopened containers of dairy products must be maintained under proper refrigeration at or below 45°F. As long as the food products are immediately returned to strict temperature control after service (such as ice baths on the share table), the unopened dairy products may be offered on the share tables for those who want it. Bins with ice may be provided for the share table to maintain the dairy products at 45°F or below.

TPHC

Time as a Public Health Control or "TPHC" relies on succinct timing in order to maintain food safety versus relying on any temperature control. Color coded coolers or food bins may be used as a tool to maintain track of the time the perishable pre-packaged foods and dairy products that have been at ambient temperature. Care must be taken to incorporate the length of time of the lunch service when the dairy products may have been out at ambient temperature when first served to a student. The LEA's will be responsible to provide procedures and time marking to reflect the proper implementation of TPHC as required under Cal Code Section 114000.



UNOPENED UNOPENED
Milk Juice