

Determining the Number of Infant Foods Containers to Issue Using the Rounding Up Methodology When Substituting 1 lb. of Bananas

WIC regulations at 7 CFR 246.10(e)(9) (Table 1, Footnote 10) authorize State agencies the option to issue infants 6–12 months of age fresh banana in lieu of up to 16 ounces of infant food fruit at a rate of **1 pound of bananas per 8 ounces of infant food fruit**. State agencies may also substitute fresh bananas at a rate of 1 banana per 4 ounces of jarred infant food fruit, up to a maximum of 16 ounces.

Table 1. Calculation Steps for Using the Rounding Up Methodology When Substituting 1 lb. of Bananas for Infant Food Fruit in Food Packages II & III for Partially Breastfed and Fully Formula-Fed Infants

Step	Rounding Up Infant Food Methodology	Example
1	<p>Subtract 8 ounces of infant food for each pound of bananas substituted (up to 16 ounces) from the maximum monthly allowance of infant food for the appropriate food package to obtain the adjusted maximum monthly allowance (MMA) of jarred infant food.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMA for Food Packages II & III for Fully Breastfed infants: 256 oz. • MMA for Food Packages II & III Partially Breastfed and Fully Formula-fed infants: 128 oz. 	128 oz. – 8 oz. = 120 oz.
2	Multiply the adjusted MMA by the timeframe (i.e., the number of months) the infant will receive the food package to get the total amount of infant food in ounces. See Table 2.	120 oz. X 6 months = 720 oz.
3	Determine the container size (i.e., ounces) of infant food issued by the State agency.	2-pack of 3.5 oz. jars (amounts to 7 oz. pack)
4	Divide total amount of infant food for the timeframe by the container size to get the total number of containers to issue.	720 oz. ÷ 7 oz. pack = 102.8 containers
5	Round up to the next whole same-size container if the number of containers is not a whole number	Round 102.8 up to 103
6	Distribute the total containers across the food package timeframe as evenly as possible	103 2-pack containers ÷ 6 months = 17.1 17, 17, 17, 17, 17, 18 (plus 1 lb. of bananas each month)

Note: Rounding is not necessary for 4 oz. containers of infant food fruits since the container size divides evenly into Federal WIC MMAs.

Table 2. Total Ounces of Infant Foods Authorized Over Six Months *When Substituting 1 lb. of Bananas Each Month*

Infant Foods	Fully Breastfed Infants Food Package II & III	Partially Breastfed & Fully Formula Fed Infants Food Package II & III
Fruits & Vegetables	1536 oz. – 48 oz. = 1488 oz. plus 6 lb. of bananas (1 lb. each month)	768 oz. – 48 oz. = 720 oz. plus 6 lb. of bananas (1 lb. each month)
Meats	465 oz.	N/A
Infant Cereal	144 oz.	144 oz.

Table 3. Infant Foods Monthly Distribution by Container Size *When Substituting 1 lb. of Bananas* for Infant Food Fruit in Food Packages II & III for Fully Breastfed Infants

Container Size	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Total Ounces
2.5 oz.	99	99	99	99	100	100	1490
3.5 oz.	71	71	71	71	71	71	1491
6 oz.	41	41	41	41	42	42	1488
2-pack: 2.5 oz.	49	49	50	50	50	50	1490
2-pack: 3.5 oz.	35	35	35	36	36	36	1491
4-pack: 3.5 oz.	17	18	18	18	18	18	1498

Table 4. Infant Foods Monthly Distribution by Container Size *When Substituting 1 lb. of Bananas* for Infant Food Fruit in Food Packages II & III for Partially Breastfed/ Fully Formula Fed Infants

Container Size	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Total Ounces
2.5 oz.	48	48	48	48	48	48	720
3.5 oz.	34	34	34	34	35	35	721
6 oz.	20	20	20	20	20	20	720
2-pack: 2.5 oz.	24	24	24	24	24	24	720
2-pack: 3.5 oz.	17	17	17	17	17	18	721
4-pack: 3.5 oz.	8	8	9	9	9	9	728