

DONATED BABY FOOD, BEVERAGE, AND INFANT FORMULA FOOD DISTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ❖ Baby food, beverage, and infant formula cannot be distributed past its "use-by" date. **Do not buy or distribute infant formula or baby food past its "use-by" date.**
- ❖ Dating is required for infant formula per FDA, but dates on baby food are not required. When a manufacturer places a date on baby food, it should be used before the "use-by" date. Go to [Food Product Dating](#) for additional information.
- ❖ As with all food products that are received and distributed by members, baby food products should be handled with the same care and consideration as any other product.
- ❖ The broad requirement for members is to appropriately handle and distribute any food product safely and according to local, state, and federal regulations. **The chart on pages 2 and 3 of these guidelines** will assist members on determining which baby food products and packaging can be distributed.
- ❖ As with any food product that is being sorted, the best guidelines for determining if a baby food product can be safely distributed should include:
 - Good knowledge and understanding of food safety
 - Thorough examination for container damage or mislabeling of the product.
 - **Check baby food product "Use-By" dates. Establish guidelines to allow a reasonable amount of time for the product to be distributed by your partner agencies and for the recipient to use the product before the use-by date.**
- ❖ When Sorting:
 - Cellophane outer wrappers do not need to be intact
 - Tops of vacuum sealed glass jars must be un-popped
 - Foil seals on individual containers must be intact & not damaged.
 - If a jar or container falls out of the packaging sleeve, it cannot be distributed without first being placed back into its original packaging sleeve.






PRODUCT PACKAGING DEFINITIONS






Individual Containers:

- Glass Jars, Pouches, Plastic Packages, Cartons/Boxes in
 - Individual Servings
 - 2 packs, 4 packs, or 6 packs

Full Cases:

- Includes value packs (8 or more)
- Partial or full cases and pallets

Baby Food Product Type	Retail Store Donations or Food Drives	Retail Distribution or Reclamation Center Donations	Food Manufacturer Donations
<p>Glass or plastic Jars</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Squeezable food pouches</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Plastic food containers</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Cellophane bags</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Cartons or Boxes</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>

Baby Food Product Type	Retail Store Donations or Food Drives	Retail Distribution or Reclamation Center Donations	Food Manufacturer Donations
<p>Juices/Electrolytes</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Juice Packs</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Infant Formula Concentrate/Ready to Use</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Infant Formula Powder (Plastic/Box Container)</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>
<p>Infant Snacks</p> 	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged Individual containers and full cases can be distributed.</p> <p>Discard damaged individual items</p>	<p>Undamaged full cases can be distributed</p> <p>Discard damaged full cases</p>