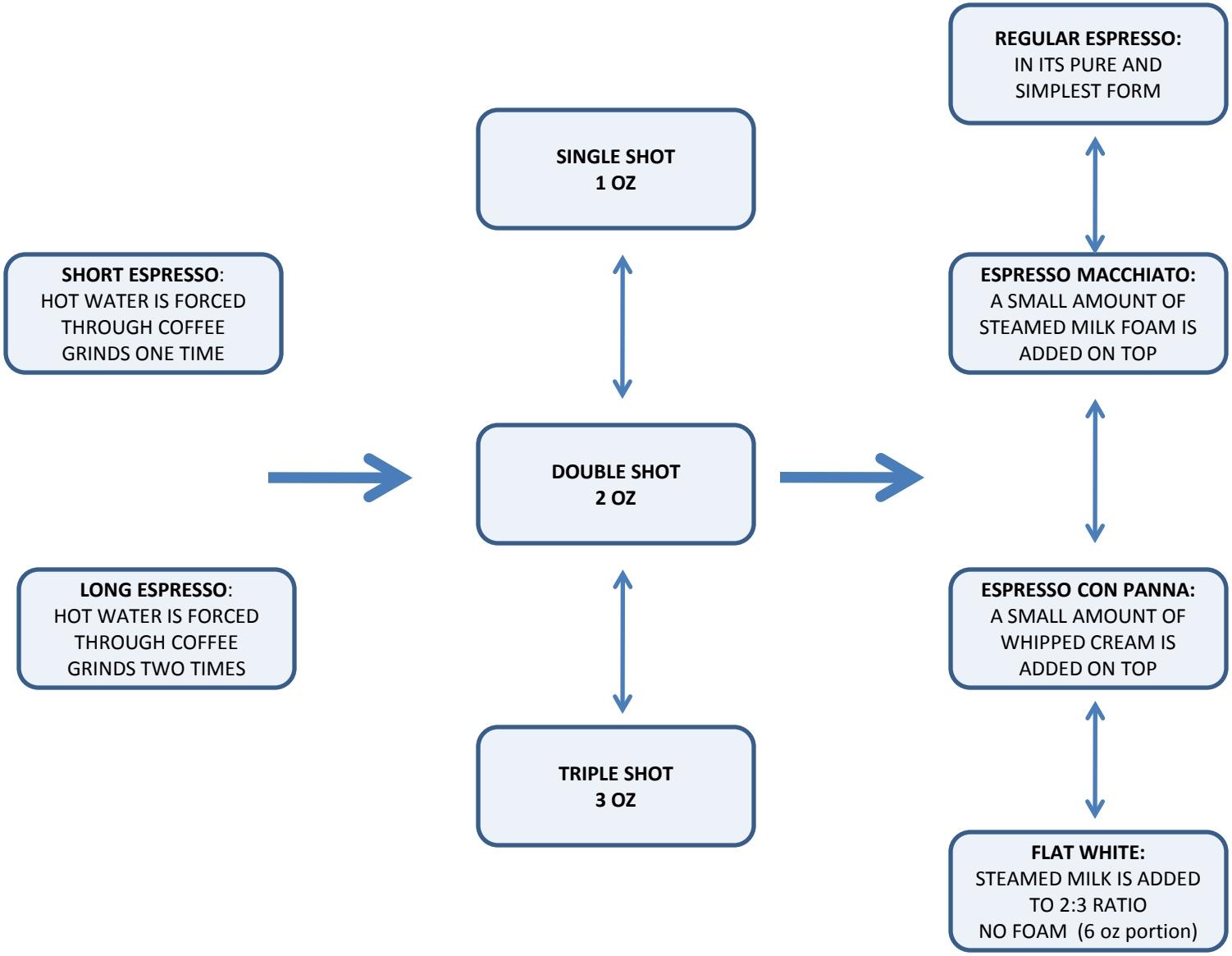ESPRESSO VARIATIONS