



Smart Snacks in Schools

Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools: Information for Administrators

Healthier Food for Our Children

In response to growing concerns over obesity, national attention has focused on the need to establish school nutrition standards and limit access to competitive foods. As a result, over the past few years, school nutrition policy initiatives have been put into place at federal, state and local levels.

Definitions

Competitive Food – All food and beverages other than meals reimbursed under the national school lunch and breakfast programs on the school campus at any time during the school day.

School Day – The period from the midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

School Campus – All areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.

School Food Authority Responsibilities

The school food authority's responsibilities are to maintain records documenting compliance with competitive foods under the umbrella of the nonprofit food service.

Local Education Agency Responsibilities

The local education agency must establish policies and procedures necessary to ensure compliance. This includes documenting and maintaining records for all competitive foods available for sale to students in areas under its jurisdiction and outside the control of the school food authority.

Food and Beverage Fundraisers

Food and beverage fundraisers must meet [Smart Snacks in Schools](#) nutrition standards. A special exemption to the standards is allowed. The School Nutrition Unit will allow up to [three exemptions](#) per school building per school year. Exempted fundraiser foods or beverages may not be sold in competition with school meals on the school campus during the meal service.

Exemptions

The Smart Snacks in School standards do **not** apply to foods brought into the school by parents or other groups that are provided, not sold. Foods and beverages sold at afterschool events with parents in attendance are also exempt.

Colorado Specific Regulations

Districts must also comply with the current [Colorado Healthy Beverage Policy and the Colorado Competitive](#) Foodservice Policy regulations when they are more restrictive than federal policy.