

# Beverage Requirements for Connecticut Public Schools



**Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)**  
**Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education**

# About this Presentation

- This presentation provides general guidance regarding the federal and state beverage requirements for Connecticut public schools
- For specific questions or technical assistance, please contact the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

# Connecticut Public Schools Include

- All local and regional boards of education
- Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)
- Governing authorities for state charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies



# Objectives

- **Review beverage requirements for public schools**
  - State beverage statute
  - USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards
  - State competitive foods regulations
- **Identify resources for guidance and training**



**Resources and websites are listed in the yellow bar**

# Disclaimer

- The mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations does not imply approval or endorsement by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Product names are used solely for clarification in evaluating compliance with the federal and state beverage requirements

# Acronyms

<b>ASP</b>	<b>Afterschool Snack Program</b>
<b>BOE</b>	<b>board of education or school governing authority</b>
<b>CGS</b>	<b>Connecticut General Statutes</b>
<b>CNPs</b>	<b>Child Nutrition Programs</b>
<b>CNS</b>	<b>Connecticut Nutrition Standards</b>
<b>CSDE</b>	<b>Connecticut State Department of Education</b>
<b>HFC</b>	<b>Healthy Food Certification</b>
<b>NSLP</b>	<b>National School Lunch Program</b>
<b>SBP</b>	<b>School Breakfast Program</b>
<b>USDA</b>	<b>U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>

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# Overview of Federal and State Beverage Requirements





# Federal versus State Laws

- Some federal requirements supersede the state requirements
- Some state requirements supersede the federal requirements

The requirements in this presentation include the *stricter requirements* of each law



# Three Laws that Address Beverages

Nutrition standards for beverages	Restrictions during operation of CNPs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>2006: State beverage statute</b> (CGS section 10-221q)</li><li>■ <b>2014: USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards</b> (Final Rule: <i>National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School</i>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>1992: State competitive foods regulations</b> (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Selling/giving certain foods and beverages</li><li>● Accrual of income from all foods/beverages</li></ul></li></ul>

# Sales

The exchange of a determined amount of *money or its equivalent*\* for foods and beverages

\* Coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items



# Examples of Other Types of Sales

1

Students purchase or are given coupons and similar items (purchased or given) that can be exchanged for beverages



# Examples of Other Types of Sales

**2**

**Programs/activities charge a fee that includes the cost of beverages provided to students**

# Examples of Fee-based Programs

- A school club's dues include cost of snacks



# Examples of Fee-based Programs

- A parent-teacher organization collects money from parents for classroom parties



# Examples of Fee-based Programs

- The fee for a weekly afterschool enrichment program includes cost of snacks provided to students





# Examples of Fee-based Programs

- A sports team's fee for student participation includes cost of beverages



# Examples of Other Types of Sales

3

Fundraisers on school premises give beverages to students in exchange for a suggested donation



# Examples of Other Types of Sales

4

Students bring fundraiser orders and money to school and pick up fundraiser beverages on school premises to bring home for delivery to customers



# Giving

Provided *free* of any charge, contribution, or suggested donations and *without the exchange* of tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items to obtain foods and beverages

# Which Laws Apply to Selling and Giving

Law	Selling	Giving
USDA's Smart Snacks	✓	
State Beverage Statute	✓	
State Competitive Foods Regulations: Section 10-215b-1	✓	✓

# Who must Comply with Beverage Laws

Type of public school	USDA's Smart Snacks	State Beverage Statute	State competitive foods regulations
Participates in NSLP/SBP	✓	✓	✓
Does <b>not</b> participate in NSLP/SBP		✓	

# How the Beverage Laws Apply

Law	What	When	Where
USDA's Smart Snacks	Beverages available for sale <i>separately</i> from reimbursable meals	School day	On school premises
State beverage statute	Beverages available for sale as <i>part of and separately</i> from reimbursable meals	At all times *	On school premises

\* Except sales that meet the state beverage statute's exemption criteria

# How the Beverage Laws Apply

Law	What	When	Where
<b>10-215b-1: Competitive foods</b>	<b>Selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students</b>	<b>30 minutes before up thorough 30 minutes after CNPs</b>	<b>On school premises</b>
<b>10-215b-23: Accrual of income</b>	<b>All sales of foods and beverages to students</b>	<b>30 minutes before up thorough 30 minutes after CNPs</b>	<b>On school premises</b>



# School Premises

All areas of the property *under the jurisdiction* of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocational-technical school system (Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)), or the governing authority district or school



# Common Sources of Beverage Sales

- Cafeteria a la carte sales \*
- Vending machines \*
- School stores, kiosks, and other school-based enterprises \*
- Fundraisers
- Concession stands



\* Not eligible for beverage exemptions

# Other Potential Sources of Beverage Sales

- A la carte sales in CNPs
- Adult education programs operated by BOE
- Afterschool programs and activities
- Classes and educational programs
- Classroom parties and celebrations
- Clubs, organizations, and similar groups
- Programs and meetings
- Recipient schools under interschool agreements
- Sports competitions
- Summer school programs operated by BOE

# CSDE Resource

## Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state laws for selling and giving competitive foods to students in HFC public schools and how they apply to different sources of food and beverage sales

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools							
Table 2. Does the regulation or statute apply?							
Source of foods and beverages	Nutrition Standards				Sales to Students		
	CNS and HFC (C.G.S. Sections 10-215e and 10-215f)	Beverages (C.G.S. Section 10-221q)	USDA Smart Snacks food standards (81 FR 50131)	USDA Smart Snacks beverage standards (81 FR 50131)	Nutritious and low-fat foods (C.G.S. Section 10-221p)	State Competitive Foods Regulations	
						Candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks (Section 10-215b-1)	Accrual of income (Section 10-215b-23)
<b>S16: Fundraisers during the school day</b> (conducted by school groups or non-school groups) that sell foods and beverages to students on school premises (including orders), sell tickets that can be exchanged for foods and beverages, or request a suggested donation in exchange for foods and beverages. <sup>1,2</sup>	Yes, applies at all times <sup>3</sup>	Yes, applies at all times <sup>3,4</sup>	Not applicable: Superseded by the stricter requirements of the CNS and HFC.	Yes, applies to all beverages sold to students on school premises during the school day. <sup>4</sup> For example, if school ends at 3:00 p.m., Smart Snacks applies to all beverages sold to students through 3:30 p.m.	Yes, applies to all foods sold to students on school premises during the school day. Low-fat dairy products and fresh or dried fruit must be sold at the location of the fundraiser or elsewhere on school premises at the same time. If fundraiser foods are pre-ordered and distributed to students on school premises during the school day, the nutritious low-fat foods specified in the statute must be available for purchase when students pick up the fundraiser foods.	Yes, but superseded by the stricter requirements of the CNS, HFC, and state beverage statute. Fundraisers on school premises during the school day can never sell candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students. In addition, Section 10-215b-1 prohibits giving and distributing candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs.	Yes, if sales occur on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after any CNPs. For example, if the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the nonprofit food service account must receive the fundraiser's income (including fees, ticket sales, and donations) from all foods and beverages sold to students anywhere on school premises from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

<sup>1</sup> "Fundraisers" are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities; including any activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools*.

<sup>2</sup> The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by fundraising with nonfood items or healthy foods. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Healthy Fundraising*.

<sup>3</sup> Fundraisers during the school day are ineligible for exemptions because they are not events; they must always comply with the CNS and state beverage statute.

<sup>4</sup> Beverages sold to students in public schools must comply with the Smart Snacks beverage standards and any stricter requirements of the state beverage statute. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools*, and visit the CSDE's *Beverage Requirements* webpage.

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[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary\\_Chart\\_Requirements\\_Competitive\\_Foods\\_HFC.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary_Chart_Requirements_Competitive_Foods_HFC.pdf)

# CSDE Resource

## Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state laws for selling and giving competitive foods to students in non-HFC public schools and how they apply to different sources of food and beverage sales

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools						
Table 2. Does the regulation or statute apply?						
Source of foods and beverages	Nutrition Standards			Nutritious and low-fat foods (C.G.S. Section 10-221p)	Sales to Students	
	Beverages C.G.S. Section 10-221q)	USDA Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (81 FR 50131)			State Competitive Foods Regulations	
		Foods	Beverages		Candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks (Section 10-215b-1)	Accrual of income (Section 10-215b-23)
<b>S16: Fundraisers during the school day</b> (conducted by school groups or non-school groups) that sell foods and beverages to students on school premises (including orders), sell tickets that can be exchanged for foods and beverages, or request a suggested donation in exchange for foods and beverages. <sup>1,2</sup>	Yes, applies at all times <sup>3,4</sup>	Yes, applies to all foods sold to students on school premises during the school day.	Yes, applies to all beverage sold to students on school premises during the school day. <sup>4</sup>	Yes, applies to all foods sold to students on school premises during the school day. <sup>4</sup> Low-fat dairy products and fresh or dried fruit must be sold at the location of the fundraiser or elsewhere on school premises at the same time. If fundraiser foods are pre-ordered and distributed to students on school premises during the school day, the nutritious low-fat foods specified in the statute must be available for purchase when students pick up the fundraiser foods.	Yes, if CNPs are operating.  <b>Candy:</b> Smart Snacks already prohibits selling candy to students on school premises during the school day. In addition, Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving candy to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day.  <b>Coffee, tea, and soft drinks:</b> The state beverage statute supersedes Section 10-215b-1. Fundraisers during the school day can never sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises. <sup>1</sup> In addition, Section 10-215b-1 prohibits giving and distributing coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day.	Yes, if sales occur on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after any CNPs, including during and after the school day. For example, if the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the nonprofit food service account must receive the fundraiser's income (including fees, ticket sales, and donations) from all foods and beverages sold to students anywhere on school premises from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

<sup>1</sup> "Fundraisers" are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities, including any activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in Non-HFC Public Schools](#).

<sup>2</sup> The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by fundraising with nonfood items or healthy foods. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Healthy Fundraising](#).

<sup>3</sup> Fundraisers during the school day are ineligible for beverage exemptions because they are not events; they must always comply with the state beverage statute.

<sup>4</sup> Beverages sold to students in public schools must comply with the Smart Snacks beverage standards and any stricter requirements of the state beverage statute. For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools](#), and visit the CSDE's [Beverage Requirements](#) webpage.

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[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary\\_Chart\\_Requirements\\_Competitive\\_Foods\\_NonHFC.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary_Chart_Requirements_Competitive_Foods_NonHFC.pdf)

## Allowable Beverages for Connecticut Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for beverages in public schools and provides examples of allowable and unallowable beverages

### Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving beverages to students in Connecticut public schools. Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies. The beverage requirements are governed by three laws:

- the state beverage statute ([Section 10-221q](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.));
- the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Smart Snacks nutrition standards ([final Rule 81 FR 50131: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HFFKA of 2010](#)); and
- the state competitive foods regulations ([Section 10-215b-1](#) and [Section 10-215b-23](#) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies).

The state beverage statute and USDA's Smart Snacks require that beverages available for sale to students on school premises must meet specific nutrition standards. The state competitive foods regulations require additional restrictions while any Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs) are operating, including restrictions for selling and giving certain foods and beverages to students; and the accrual of income from all foods and beverages sold to students on school premises.



- “Sales” means the exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages. Under Connecticut’s statutes and regulations for competitive foods, sales include tickets and similar items that are given to students (such as food rewards) and can be exchanged for foods and beverages. However, Smart Snacks does not apply to foods and beverages that can be obtained with tickets and similar items that are given to students.
- “Giving” means that foods and beverages are provided free of any charge, contribution, or suggested donations; and without the exchange of tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items to obtain foods and beverages.
- “School premises” include all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocational-technical school system (Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)), or the governing authority district or school.

The federal and state beverage laws have different requirements. When federal and state requirements differ, the stricter requirements apply. The beverage requirements in this document include the stricter provisions of each law.

## Beverage Requirements Webpage

The screenshot shows the official website for the Connecticut State Department of Education's Beverage Requirements. The page features a blue header with the 'ct.gov' logo, the text 'Connecticut's Official State Website', a search bar, and a 'Language + Settings' button. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'CT.gov Home / Department of Education / Beverage Requirements'. The main heading is 'Beverage Requirements'. A left-hand navigation menu includes 'Overview' (highlighted), 'Documents/Forms', 'Laws/Regulations', and 'Contact'. The 'Overview' section contains a sub-header 'Overview' and a list of links: 'HFC | Competitive Foods | CNS | List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages'. The main text explains that Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes governs beverages sold to students in public schools. It also mentions that USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards apply to beverages sold separately from school meals. A light blue box at the bottom of the content area contains links for 'Beverage Requirements for Public Schools | Prohibited Beverages' and 'Beverage Requirements for Private Schools and RCCIs'. The page is provided by the Department of Education.

<http://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Beverage-Requirements>

# State Beverage Statute Requirements (CGS Section 10-221q)



[https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\\_170.htm#sec\\_10-221q](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221q)



# Overview of State Beverage Statute

- Applies to all public schools
- Applies to all beverages available for sale to students on school premises at all times
  - Part of reimbursable meals and ASP snacks
  - Sold separately from reimbursable meals and ASP snacks



# Overview of State Beverage Statute

- Applies regardless of when students will *receive* or *consume* the beverages

**Example:** Schools cannot sell tickets to students on Monday for hot chocolate that will be distributed to students on Friday during the school day



# Overview of State Beverage Statute

- Applies regardless of when students will *receive* or *consume* the beverages

**Example:** Schools cannot sell noncompliant beverages on school premises outside of events, including orders for beverages that will be distributed on school premises



# Overview of State Beverage Statute

- Allows beverage exemptions if sales meet three criteria



# Beverage Exemptions

- Not part of annual HFC Statement
- BOE must vote *separately* to allow sale to students of any beverages that do not comply with CGS Section 10-221q
  - *Recommendation:* Conduct vote for beverage exemptions at same time as annual vote for HFC Statement

# Beverage Exemptions

- Beverages that do not comply with the state beverage statute cannot be sold to students on school premises unless
  1. BOE *votes* to allow beverage exemptions
  2. beverage sales meet the *three exemption criteria* of the state beverage statute

# Three Exemption Criteria for Beverages

1. The sale is in connection with an *event* occurring *after* the end of the regular school day or on the weekend
2. The sale is at the *location* of the event
3. The beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store

# Definition of Event

An occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity

Event	Not an event
Soccer game	Soccer practice
High school debate	Debating team practice
School play	Play rehearsals
School chess match	Chess club



# Examples of Events

- Awards banquets
- Boy Scout Blue & Gold dinner
- Craft fairs
- Debate team competitions
- Election day (if school is not in session)
- Family bingo nights
- Math team competitions
- Mock trial competitions
- School carnivals
- School concerts
- School recitals
- School dances
- School fairs, e.g., health, science, and math
- Silent auctions
- Sports banquets
- Sports games, tournaments, and matches, e.g., basketball, football, soccer, tennis, field hockey, volleyball, wrestling, and cross country
- Talent shows
- Theatrical productions

# Definition of School Day

The period from *midnight before to 30 minutes after* the end of the official school day



# Example of School Day

School ends at	3:00 PM
School day is	Midnight through 3:30 PM
Noncompliant beverages can be sold at <i>location of an event</i> held anytime from	3:31 PM through 11:59 PM *
* If any CNPs are operating, sales must also comply with state competitive foods regulations	

# Definition of Location

The *same place* where the event is being held

**Event: Soccer game**

**Location: Side of soccer field**



# Beverage Exemptions Never Allowed for

- A la carte sales in CNPs
- Afterschool programs and activities
- Classes and educational programs
- Clubs, organizations, and similar groups
- Fundraisers not held at an event
- Programs and meetings
- School stores
- Sports practices
- Summer school programs operated by BOE
- Vending machines
- Any other activities that are not events

## Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools

Summarizes state requirements and provides specific motion language for exemptions

### Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools

This document summarizes the requirements for allowing food exemptions under Healthy Food Certification (HFC), which are mandated by [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.); and the requirements for allowing beverage exemptions in public schools, which are mandated by C.G.S. [Section 10-221q](#). It also provides motion language for the board of education or governing authority's votes to allow food exemptions and beverage exemptions.

#### Annual HFC Requirements

Each public school sponsor of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) must complete their annual HFC Statement (Addendum to Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs (ED-099)) by July 1 of each year. The HFC Statement is completed online in the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Online Application and Claiming System for Child Nutrition Programs (CNP System), as part of the sponsor's application module for participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs.

The final board-approved meeting minutes must be uploaded with the submission of the annual HFC Statement, and must indicate the results of the board votes for whether the district will:

- adopt the healthy food option under HFC;
- allow food exemptions to the healthy food option under HFC (if the district votes to implement the healthy food option); and
- allow beverage exemptions under C.G.S. Section 10-221q (if the district chooses to allow beverage exemptions).

For detailed guidance on the HFC requirements, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#), and visit the CSDE's [Healthy Food Certification](#) webpage. For information on the CNS requirements, refer to the CSDE's document, [Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#), and visit the CSDE's [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) webpage.

#### Required Exemption Language

The language in the final board-approved meeting minutes must reflect the specific criteria required by C.G.S. Section 10-215f for participating in the healthy food option of HFC and allowing food exemptions. For detailed guidance on the current year's HFC application process, refer to the CSDE's [annual Operational Memorandum](#) regarding the annual process for submitting the healthy food certification (HFC) statement. For additional information on the HFC application process, visit the "Apply" section of the CSDE's HFC webpage.

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Exemptions\\_Food\\_Beverages\\_Public\\_Schools.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Exemptions_Food_Beverages_Public_Schools.pdf)

# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages \*



\* Include stricter requirements of Smart Snacks and state beverage statute

# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages

## 1 Milk, unflavored low-fat (1%) and flavored or unflavored fat-free

### Nutrition Standards

- $\leq 4$  grams of sugar per fluid ounce
- No artificial sweeteners

### Portion limit

- *Elementary*: 8 fluid ounces (fl oz)
- *Middle and high*: 12 fl oz





# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages

## 2 100 percent juice (fruit, vegetable, or combination)



### Nutrition Standards

- No added sweeteners

### Portion limit

- *Elementary:* 8 fl oz
- *Middle and high:* 12 fl oz

# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages

## 3 Nondairy milk substitutes, flavored or unflavored (e.g., soy milk)



### Nutrition Standards

### Portion limit

- Must meet USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes
- No artificial sweeteners
- $\leq 4$  grams of sugars per fluid ounce
- $\leq 35\%$  of calories from fat
- $\leq 10\%$  of calories from saturated fat

- *Elementary:* 8 fl oz
- *Middle and high:* 12 fl oz

# USDA's Nutrition Standards for Milk Substitutes

## Nutrients per cup (8 fluid ounces)

- Calcium: 276 milligrams (mg)
- Protein: 8 grams (g)
- Vitamin A: 500 international units (IU)
- Vitamin D: 100 IU
- Magnesium: 24 mg
- Phosphorus: 222 mg
- Potassium: 349 mg
- Riboflavin: 0.44 mg
- Vitamin B-12: 1.1 micrograms (mcg)

# Need Manufacturer Documentation to Determine if Milk Substitutes Comply

- Nutrition Facts label does not indicate if a product complies with USDA's nutrition standards for milk substitutes
  - Must obtain documentation from manufacturer
- Only certain brands of *soy beverages* comply
  - Included on CSDE's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages webpage



## Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children Without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs

Summarizes USDA's requirements for milk substitutes and required documentation, and identifies allowable milk substitutes

### Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs

The requirements in this document apply only to milk substitutes for children whose dietary needs do not constitute a disability. Meal modifications for children whose disability restricts their diet must follow the federal nondiscrimination laws and regulations. For more information, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) guide, *Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs*.



Public schools, private schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) school nutrition programs must follow the USDA's requirements for milk substitutes for children without a disability. School nutrition programs include the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP, Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, Special Milk Program (SMP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-risk Supper Program implemented in schools.

School food authorities (SFAs) have the option to offer one or more allowable fluid milk substitutes for children without a disability. If the SFA chooses to make allowable milk substitutes available, they must be available for all children when requested by a parent or guardian. The USDA does not provide additional reimbursement for these substitutions.



#### Allowable Milk Substitutes

The USDA allows two types of milk substitutes for children whose dietary needs do not constitute a disability.

1. Lactose-free or lactose-reduced milk that meets the appropriate fat content and flavor restrictions for each grade group. Lactose-free or lactose-reduced milk must be unflavored low-fat, unflavored fat-free, or flavored fat-free for grades K-12; unflavored whole for age 1; and unflavored low-fat or fat-free for ages 2-4. The USDA recommends that lactose-free or lactose-reduced milk is the first choice for children with lactose intolerance.
2. Nondairy milk substitutes that meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes (refer to table 1), such as certain brands of soy milk.

SFAs may choose to offer only one milk substitute. If children decide not to take this option, the SFA is not obligated to offer any other milk substitutes.

# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages

## 4 Beverages containing only water and 100 juice



### Nutrition Standards

- No added sweeteners
- Meet additional requirements for restricted ingredients (refer to CSDE's *Requirements for Beverages Containing Water and Juice*)

### Portion limit

- *Elementary:* 8 fl oz
- *Middle and high:* 12 fl oz

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Water\\_Juice\\_Beverages\\_Requirement.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Water_Juice_Beverages_Requirement.pdf)

## Requirements for Beverages Containing Water and Juice

Summarizes Connecticut's requirements for beverages that contain water mixed with some portion of 100 percent juice

### Requirements for Beverages Containing Water and Juice Complying with Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes

Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes specifies five categories of beverages that are allowed for sale to students in public schools, including "beverages that contain only water and fruit or vegetable juice and have no added sugars, sweeteners or artificial sweeteners." However, no water and juice beverages actually meet the criteria specified in the statute because all currently available products contain additional ingredients besides water and juice, such as natural flavors, vegetable color, vitamin C, and other nutrients.



Based on the intent of the statute to have beverages available in this category, the state committee responsible for revising the Connecticut Nutrition Standards developed specific standards for the category of water and juice beverages in 2008. These standards took effect on July 1, 2009, and are revised by the committee as needed to reflect current nutrition science. They apply to all water and juice beverages sold to students on public school premises including the cafeteria, vending machines, school stores, fundraisers, and any other sources of beverage sales to students.

#### Requirements for Water and Juice Beverages

"Water and juice beverages" are beverages made with some portion of 100 percent juice mixed with water. To be allowed for sale to students in schools, all water and juice beverages must meet the criteria below:

- Must contain only water and fruit or vegetable juice and have no added sugars or sweeteners (including artificial, nonnutritive, and natural sweeteners, and sugar alcohols).
- Portion size is limited to 8 fluid ounces for elementary school students and 12 fluid ounces for middle and high school students.
- No more than 100 percent vitamin C.
- No more than 10 percent of calcium, potassium, vitamin D, and fiber (e.g., maltodextrin, inulin).
- No other fortification of vitamins and minerals other than those nutrients listed above.
- No nutrition supplements such as amino acids (e.g., taurine, glutamine, lysine, and arginine), extracts (e.g., green tea extract and gorn kola extract), and herbs or other botanicals (e.g., ginseng and ginkgo biloba).
- May contain vegetable or fruit extracts only, used for color or flavor, such as pomegranate extract, beet extract, or red cabbage extract.
- May contain natural flavors, as defined by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food labeling requirements (Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations Section 101.22) and natural colors (such as fruit or vegetable juice).

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[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Water\\_Juice\\_Beverages\\_Requirement.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Water_Juice_Beverages_Requirement.pdf)

# Five Categories of Allowable Beverages

## 5 Water, with or without carbonation



### Nutrition Standards

- No added sweeteners
- No caffeine
- *Elementary and middle schools:* Must be unflavored and uncarbonated during school day
- *High schools:* May be flavored or unflavored and carbonated or uncarbonated

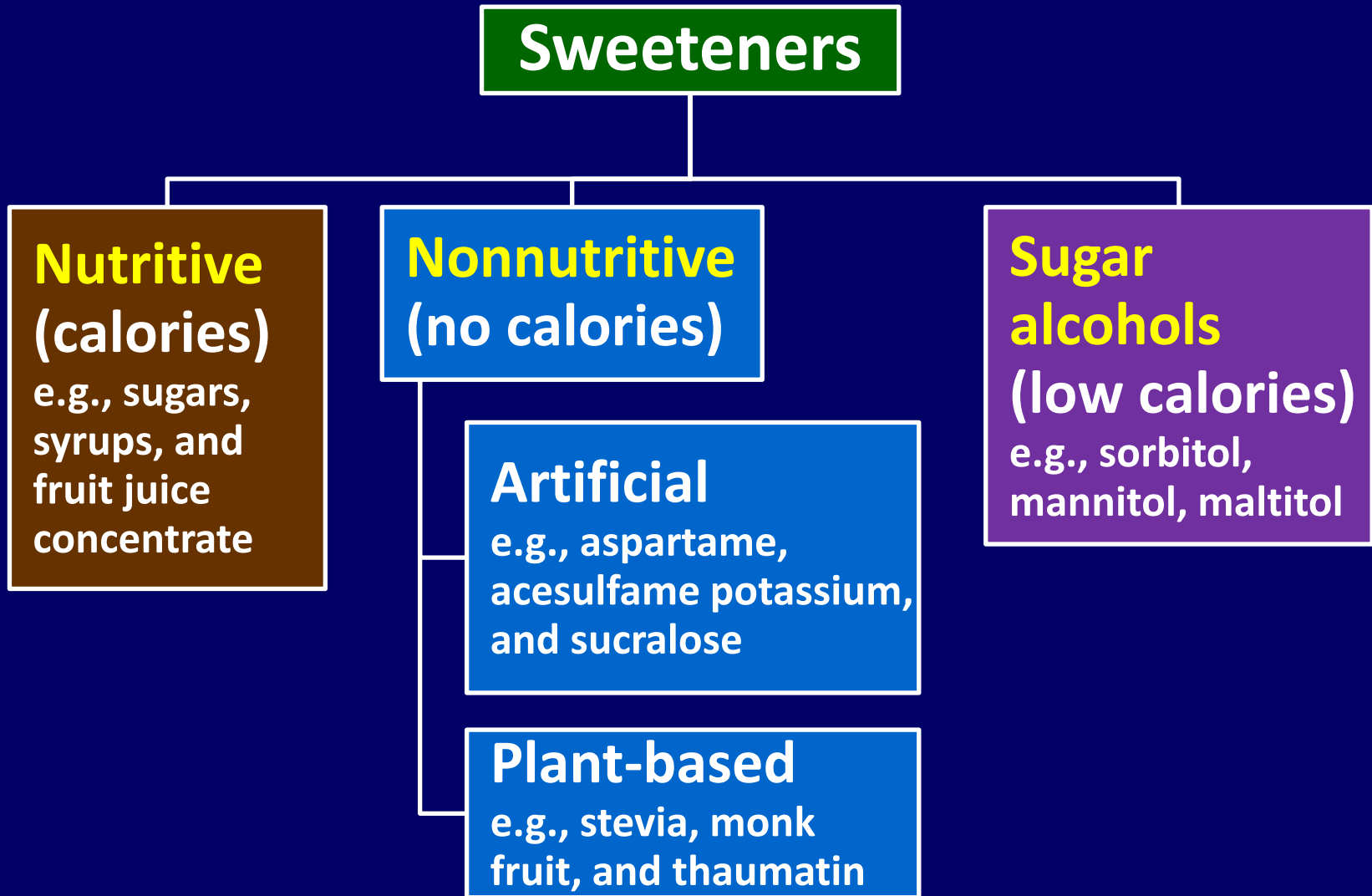
### Portion limit

*Plain water* with or without carbonation): Unlimited for all grades

*Flavored water* with or without carbonation (*during the school day, allowed for high schools only*): 12 fl oz \*



# Types of Sweeteners



# Evaluating Commercial Beverage Products



# Commercial Beverages

- CSDE evaluates commercial products for compliance with state beverage statute and USDA's Smart Snacks beverage standards
- Compliant beverages are included on CSDE's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages webpage



# CSDE Resource

## List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages Webpage

Brand-specific lists of commercial products that comply with CNS and beverages that comply with state beverage statute and USDA's Smart Snacks

The screenshot shows the official website for the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages. The header includes the Connecticut State Website logo, a search bar, and a language/settings menu. The breadcrumb trail reads: CT.gov Home / Education / K-12 Education / Nutrition and Meal Programs / List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages. The main heading is "List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages". On the left, there is a navigation menu with "Overview" selected, followed by "Related Resources", "Laws/Regulations", and "Contact". Below the menu, it states "Provided by: Department of Education". The main content area has an "Overview" section with a list of links: "School Nutrition Programs", "Program Guidance", "Forms", "Resources", "Nutrition Education", "Beverage Requirements", "CNS", "Competitive Foods", and "HFC". The text explains that the CSDE list includes brand-specific lists of commercial food products that comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) and commercial beverages that comply with the beverage requirements of Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). It also notes that these foods and beverages meet the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards. A paragraph states that public schools choosing the Healthy Food Certification (HFC) option under C.G.S. Section 10-215f must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals. The state beverage requirements (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) apply to all public schools, even if they do not choose the HFC option or do not participate in the NSLP. At the bottom, there is a light blue button with the text "List Guidelines | List Updates | List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages".

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages>

# Commercial Beverage Products

- Before purchasing, check CSDE's webpage to *verify* that products are listed
  - Approval is specific to the brand and variety of each beverage item
  - Must check that each product is listed
- Submit information to CSDE for new products or products not listed

## Submitting Food and Beverage Products for Approval

Indicates required information to submit food and beverage products to CSDE for review of compliance with CNS and state beverage statute

### Submitting Food and Beverage Products for Approval: Connecticut's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) [List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#) webpage includes commercial food products that meet the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) and commercial beverage products that meet the [state beverage requirements](#) of Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes and the beverage requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) [Smart Snacks nutrition standards](#). The CSDE reviews foods and beverages for compliance with these state and federal nutrition standards.

To submit a commercial food or beverage product to the CSDE for review, provide a PDF of the actual product package, artwork for the product package, or a product specification sheet. The CSDE prefers that the submission includes the **actual product packaging** because it contains the most complete and accurate information.

The product submission must include the following:

1. **Name of manufacturer**, exactly as it appears on the product label.
2. **Name of product**, exactly as it appears on the product label.
3. **Flavor or variety** of product, exactly as it appears on the product label.
4. **Nutrition Facts label**, which must include the following nutrients: calories, total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sugars, sodium, and fiber.
5. **List of ingredients**, which **must be in a format that can be electronically copied**. Please check the PDF before submitting to ensure that the text can be copied.
6. **Actual package size**, which must list both individual serving size and actual package size. For frozen desserts, the serving size must include both **volume** (fluid ounces) and **weight** (ounces or grams) of one serving of the product.
7. **UPC code** for the **individual package** (12-digit code, i.e., 0-00000-00000-0) and **case** (14-digit code, i.e., 000-00000-00000-0) or the manufacturer product code if the product does not have a UPC code.

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/FBlist/Submitting\\_Food\\_Beverage\\_Products.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/FBlist/Submitting_Food_Beverage_Products.pdf)

# Avoiding Compliance Issues

1. Verify that commercial products comply with beverage requirements *before* selling to students
  - Use CSDE's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverage webpage
  - For products not listed, *submit to CSDE for approval* before selling

# Avoiding Compliance Issues

2. *Check vendor assurances* of product compliance before purchasing
  - If a vendor indicates product complies with beverage requirements, verify using CSDE webpage
3. *Check deliveries* against product orders
4. *Train food service staff* to monitor beverages in vending machines stocked by an outside vendor



# Examples of Noncompliant Beverages \*



\* Do not meet state beverage statute and Smart Snacks

# Reminder: Noncompliant beverages cannot be sold to students unless

1. The BOE has voted to allow beverage exemptions **AND**
2. The sales are at the location of an event held after the school day or on the weekend **AND**
3. The event does not occur while any CNPs are operating

# Soda

- Regular
- Diet



# Coffee

- Regular
- Decaffeinated
- Herbal
- Iced



# Tea

- Regular
- Decaffeinated
- Herbal
- Iced



# Hot Chocolate/Cocoa

- Regular
- Low-calorie
- Low-sugar



# Juice Drinks

- Juice drinks that are *not 100 percent juice*, with or without or carbonation
- Might be labeled drink, beverage, cooler, cocktail, nectar, punch, or “ade” (e.g., lemonade or limeade)



# Examples of Juice Drinks

- Cranberry cocktail
- Fruit nectars
- Fruit punch drinks
- Grape juice drink
- Lemonade
- Limeade
- Orange juice drink
- Pineapple-grapefruit beverage





# 100% Juice with Added Sweeteners

- 100 percent juice (with or without carbonation) with *added sweeteners*



# Water/Juice Beverages with Added Sweeteners

- Beverages containing 100% juice diluted with water (with or without carbonation) with *added sweeteners*



# Certain Types of Milk

- Milk that does not meet USDA's fat restrictions
  - Reduced-fat (2%) milk
  - Whole milk
- Milk that contains artificial sweeteners



# Nondairy Milk Substitutes

- **Nondairy milk substitutes that do not meet USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes such as**
  - some brands of soy milk
  - rice milk
  - almond milk
  - cashew milk



# Nondairy Milk Substitutes

## ■ Energy drinks

- Often contain high amounts of caffeine, sugar, and other ingredients such as nutrition supplements



# Waters with Added Sweeteners

- Waters (with or without carbonation) with any added sweeteners



# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Fruit 2O Flavored Sparkling Beverage, Sunny Delight Beverages Co

Contains 3% juice

Ingredients: Carbonated water, contains less than 2% of strawberry juice concentrate, natural flavor, citric acid, malic acid, potassium citrate, **SUCRALOSE**, calcium disodium EDTA (to protect flavor), potassium benzoate (to ensure freshness, red 40

Sweeteners: Sucralose



# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Propel Fitness Water, Stokely-Van Camp, Inc

Ingredients: water, citric acid, sodium hexametaphosphate (to protect flavor), natural flavor, potassium sorbate (preserves freshness), ascorbic acid (vitamin C), **SUCRALOSE**, sodium citrate, **ACESULFAME POTASSIUM**, niacinamide (vitamin B3), calcium disodium EDTA (to protect flavor), vitamin e acetate, calcium pantothenate (vitamin B5), pyridoxine hydrochloride (vitamin B6)

Sweeteners: Sucralose and acesulfame potassium





# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Sonu Water (10 calories)

Ingredients: Filtered water, **ORGANIC AGAVE SYRUP**, organic and natural flavors, organic vegetable extract for color, citric acid, ascorbic acid, niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxine (B6), cyanocobalamin (B12), palm carotene (source of vitamin A), electrolytes (potassium carbonate, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride)

Sweeteners: Organic agave syrup



# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Sonu Water (25 calories)

Ingredients: Filtered water, **ORGANIC EVAPORATED CANE JUICE**, organic and natural flavors, citric acid, niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxine (B6), cyanocobalamin (B12), palm carotene (source of vitamin A), electrolytes (potassium carbonate, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride)



**Sweeteners: Organic evaporated cane juice**

# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Sonu Water (45 calories)

Ingredients: Filtered water, *EVAPORATED CANE JUICE*, organic and natural flavors, citric acid, niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxine (B6), cyanocobalamin (B12), palm carotene (source of vitamin A), electrolytes (potassium carbonate, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride)



Sweeteners: Evaporated cane juice

# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Glaceau Vitamin Water, Coca-Cola

Ingredients: Reverse osmosis water, **CRYSTALLINE FRUCTOSE, CANE SUGAR**, less than 0.5% of: vitamin C (ascorbic acid), citric acid, natural flavors, vegetable juice (color), magnesium lactate and calcium lactate and potassium phosphate (electrolyte sources), taurine, vitamin B5 (calcium pantothenate), zinc gluconate, vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin), chromium polynicotinate



**Sweeteners: Crystalline fructose and cane sugar**

# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Glaceau Vitamin Water Zero, Coca-Cola

Ingredients: Reverse osmosis water, less than 1% of: **ERYTHRITOL**, citric acid, calcium phosphate, magnesium lactate and calcium lactate and potassium phosphate (electrolyte sources), gum acacia, phosphoric acid, vitamin C (ascorbic acid), **STEVIA LEAF EXTRACT**, natural flavors, zinc gluconate, glycerol ester of rosin, vitamin B5 (calcium pantothenate), vitamin E (alpha-Tocopheryl acetate), vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin A palmitate



**Sweeteners: Erythritol and stevia leaf extract**

# Examples of Waters with Added Sweeteners

## Karma Wellness Water

Ingredients: Spring water (includes coconut), *STEVIA REBAUDIANA LEAF EXTRACT*, *CANE SUGAR*, *ERYTHRITOL*, gum arabic, citric acid, ascorbic acid (vitamin C), D-calcium pantothenate (vitamin B5), niacinamide (vitamin B3), D-alpha-tocopheryl acetate (vitamin E), vitamin A palmitate (vitamin A), pyridoxine hydrochloride (vitamin B6), green tea leaf extract, panax ginseng root extractives, yerba mate (*ilex paraguariensis*) leaf extractives, cholecalciferol (vitamin D3), cyanocobalamin (vitamin B12)



**Sweeteners: Stevia rebaudina leaf extract cane sugar, and erythritol**

# Sports Drinks

- Regular
- Low-calorie
- Zero calorie



# Examples of Sports Drinks

## Gatorade Thirst Quencher Sports Drink (80 calories)

Ingredients: Water, *SUGAR*, *DEXTROSE*, citric acid, natural flavor, salt, sodium citrate, monopotassium phosphate, gum arabic, sucrose acetate isobutyrate, glycerol ester of rosin, yellow 6



Sweeteners: Sugar and dextrose



# Examples of Sports Drinks

## Gatorade Thirst Quencher Low-calorie Sports Drink (30 calories)

Ingredients: Water, *SUGAR*, citric acid, natural flavor, salt, sodium citrate, monopotassium phosphate, *SUCRALOSE*, *ACESULFAME POTASSIUM*, yellow 5, red 40

Sweeteners: Sugar, sucralose, and acesulfame potassium



# Examples of Sports Drinks

## Powerade Sports Drink

Ingredients: Water, **HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP**, less than 0.5% of: citric acid, natural flavors, salt and magnesium chloride and calcium chloride and mono-potassium phosphate (electrolyte sources), modified food starch, glycerol ester of rosin, calcium disodium EDTA (to protect color), medium chain triglycerides, vitamin B3 (niacinamide), vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B12, red 40, ascorbic acid (to protect taste)



**Sweeteners: High fructose corn syrup**

# Examples of Sports Drinks

## Powerade Zero Sports Drink (80 calories)

Ingredients: Water, less than 1% of: citric acid, salt and mono-potassium phosphate and magnesium chloride and calcium chloride (electrolyte sources), natural flavors, **SUCRALOSE, ACESULFAME POTASSIUM**, vitamin B3 (niacinamide), vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride), vitamin B12, yellow 5, yellow 6, ascorbic acid (to protect taste), calcium disodium EDTA (to protect color)



**Sweeteners: Sucralose and acesulfame potassium**

# Examples of Sports Drinks

## V8 Splash Soar Sports Hydration Drink (50 calories)

Contains 5% juice

Ingredients: Water, **SUGAR**, carrot juice concentrate, purple carrot juice concentrate (for color), citric acid, natural flavoring, salt, sour red cherry juice concentrate, vitamin C (ascorbic acid), beta carotene for color, pomegranate juice concentrate

Sweeteners: Sugar



# Examples of Sports Drinks

## Aspire Natural Sports Drink (35 calories)

Ingredients: Pure water, *PURE CANE SUGAR*, *ERYTHRITOL*, natural flavors, calcium lactate, citric acid, sea salt, sodium citrate, monopotassium phosphate, niacin (vitamin B3), *STEVIA EXTRACT (REBAUDIOSIDE A)*, monk fruit extract, pantothenic acid (vitamin B5), zinc lactate, goji extract, vitamin B6 and vitamin B12

Sweeteners: Sugar, erythritol, stevia extract



# State Competitive Foods Regulations (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23)



[https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title\\_10Subtitle\\_10-215bSection\\_10-215b-1/](https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215bSection_10-215b-1/)  
[https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title\\_10Subtitle\\_10-215bSection\\_10-215b-23/](https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215bSection_10-215b-23/)

## Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

### How to comply with Sections 10-215b-1 (competitive foods) and 10-215b-23 (accrual of income) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

#### Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

This guidance applies to schools and institutions that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs), including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP, Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, Special Milk Program (SMP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-risk Afterschool Meals operated in schools, and Summer Food Service Program (SFS) operated in schools.

**Note:** Residential child care institutions (RCCIs) may be eligible to participate in the ASP if they operate an afterschool care program with enrichment or education activities that meet the criteria for ASP participation. RCCIs may be eligible to serve At-risk Afterschool Meals if they have non-residential care programs and these programs offer afterschool education and enrichment programs for nonresidential children.





Effective August 25, 1992, Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies address restrictions for sale and dispensing competitive foods to students on school premises and the accrual of income from competitive foods.

- “Competitive foods” are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises separately from reimbursable meals and snacks in the CNPs.
  - The USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards address sales of competitive foods during the school day, which is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
  - The state competitive foods regulations address sales of competitive foods from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. They also restrict giving certain foods and beverages to students during this time.
  - The Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) for Healthy Food Certification (HFC) (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) and allowable beverages (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) address sales of competitive foods at all times, except for sales that meet specific exemption criteria (refer to “Food exemptions for HFC public schools” and “Beverage exemptions for HFC public schools” in this document).
- “Sales” means the exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages.

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[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Overview\\_CT\\_Competitive\\_Foods\\_Regulations.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Overview_CT_Competitive_Foods_Regulations.pdf)

# Overview of Competitive Foods Regulations

Section	Applies to	When applies
<p data-bbox="156 394 484 596"><b>10-215b-1: Competitive foods</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="577 394 1112 596"><b>Selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1284 394 1773 748"><b>30 minutes before up thorough 30 minutes after the operation of any CNP's</b></p>
<p data-bbox="156 906 475 1109"><b>10-215b-23: Income accrual</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="577 906 1199 1266"><b>Accrual of income from all sales of foods and beverages to students anywhere on school premises</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1284 906 1773 1266"><b>30 minutes before up thorough 30 minutes after the operation of any CNP's</b></p>



# Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Include

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP
- Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP
- Special Milk Program (SMP)
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)  
At-risk Afterschool Meals operated in schools
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)  
operated in schools

# Section 10-215b-1: Competitive foods

- Coffee \*
- Tea \*
- Soft drinks



\* All types, including regular, decaffeinated, herbal, and iced

# Examples of Soft Drinks

- **Soda** (regular and diet)
- **Sports drinks** (regular, low-calorie, and zero calorie)
- **Sweetened beverages** (with or without carbonation) that are not 100 percent juice (e.g., lemonade and fruit punch drinks)
- **Flavored water with added sweeteners** (with or without carbonation)


# How the State Laws Interact

Depending on when CNPs operate

- state beverage statute may supersede Section 10-215b-1 **OR**
- Section 10-215b-1 may supersede state beverage statute



# Restrictions for Selling Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks

State Law	When applies
Beverage statute	<b>At all times *</b> 
State Regulations Section 10-215b-1 (Competitive Foods)	30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs
<b>* Except sales that meet exemption criteria</b>	

# Restrictions for Selling Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks



At events if CNPs are operating

State Law	When applies
Beverage Exemptions	Events that occur after the school day or on the weekend
Competitive Foods Regulation Section 10-215b-1	30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs

Stricter if CNPs are operating

# Restrictions for Selling Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks



At events if CNPs are operating

## Example

ASP operates from **4:30 to 5:30 PM** and a concession stand sells beverages to students at a football game (event) after the school day

- **Section 10-215b-1** prohibits sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from **4:00 to 6:00 PM**
- **Section 10-215b-23** requires that the income from all foods and beverages sold to students from **4:00 to 6:00 PM** accrues to school food service account

# Summary of Requirements for Selling Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks

Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold to students on school premises unless



1. the BOE has voted to allow beverage exemptions **AND**
2. the sales are at the location of an event held after the school day or on the weekend **AND**
3. the event does not occur while any CNPs are operating



# How Section 10-215b-1 Applies to “Giving” Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks

## Example

SBP operates from **7:00 a.m.** to **8:00 a.m.**

NSLP operates from **11:30 a.m.** to **1:00 p.m.**

- Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be given to students from **4:00 to 6:00 PM**
- Examples: classroom parties and food rewards

Refer to “Giving” in this presentation

# Section 10-215b-23: Accrual of Income

Any income (gross income) from the sale of foods and beverages to students anywhere on school premises from *30 minutes before until 30 minutes after* any state or federally subsidized CNP must accrue to the *school food service program*



# How Section 10-215b-23 Applies to Income Accrual

When CNPs operate	When income must accrue to food service *
<b>SBP</b> 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
<b>NSLP</b> 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,
<b>ASP</b> 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\* Includes income from foods and beverages sold at exempted events

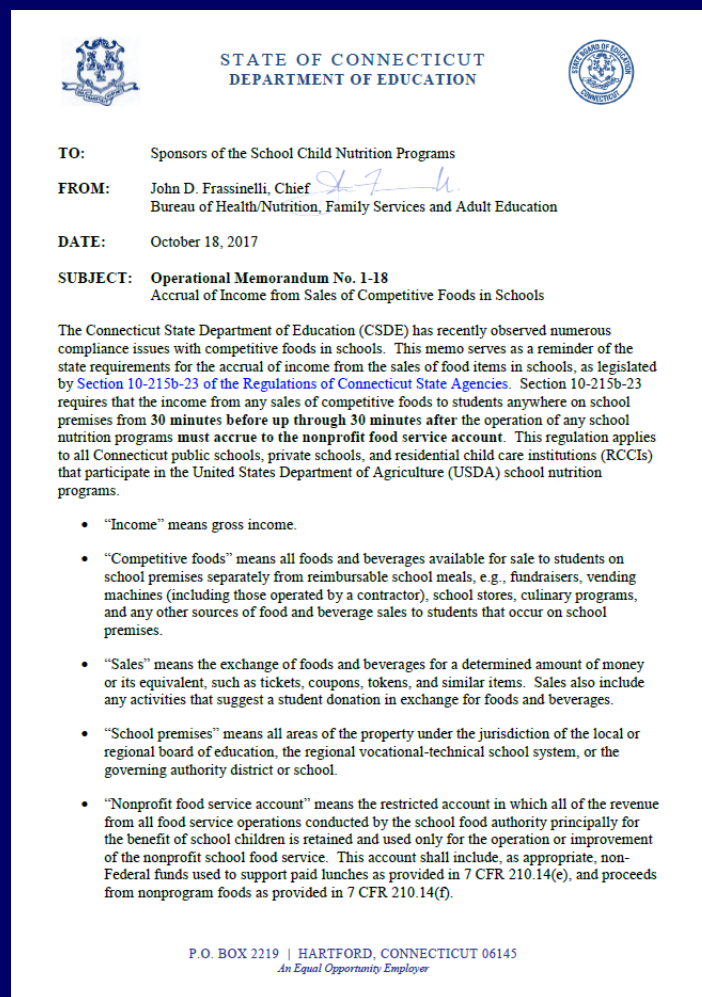
# Example: How Section 10-215b-23 Applies to Vending Machine Contracts

A contract specifies that the school food service receives **20% of total vending sales** but vending machines operate from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the NSLP

School food service must receive **100% of total vending sales (gross income)** during this time, not the 20% specified in the vending machine contract

## CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools

Summarizes how Section 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State apply

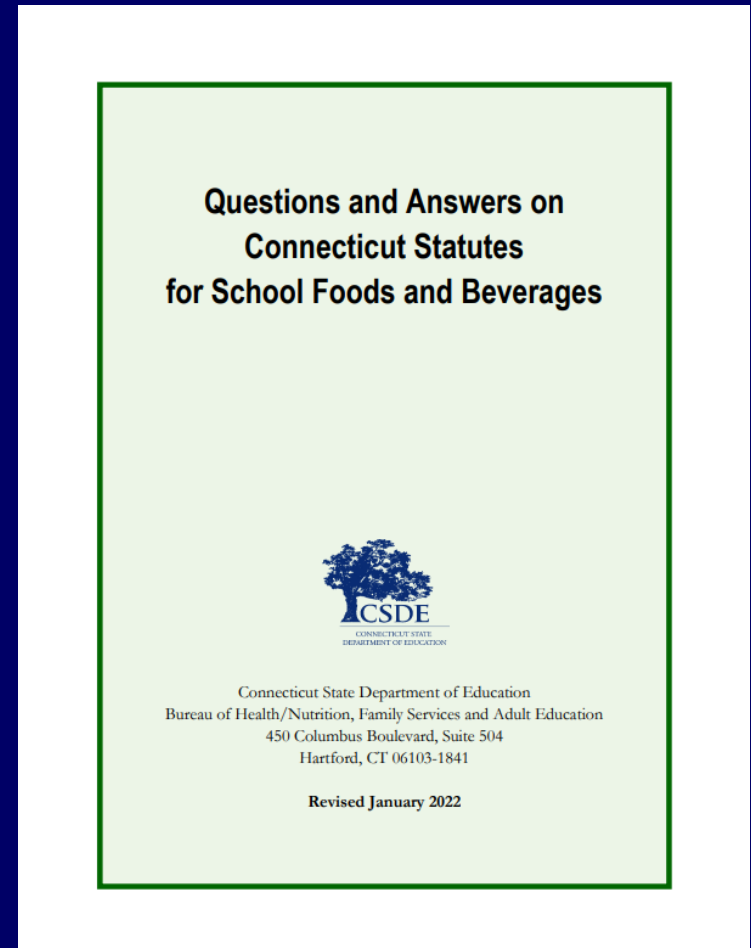


# More Resources



## Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes

Provides answers to commonly asked questions about how to implement the requirements of the Connecticut General Statutes for school foods and beverages



[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/  
Questions\\_Answers\\_Connecticut\\_Statutes\\_School\\_Foods\\_Beverages.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Questions_Answers_Connecticut_Statutes_School_Foods_Beverages.pdf)

## Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

Comprehensive guidance on complying with federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in HFC public schools

### Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools



*Complying with the state and federal requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in public schools that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes*



**Revised February 2022**  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education  
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504  
Hartford, CT 06103-1841



## Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools

Comprehensive guidance on complying with federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in HFC public schools

### Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools



*Complying with the state and federal requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in public schools that choose not to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes*



Revised February 2021

Connecticut State Department of Education  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education  
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Hartford, CT 06103-1841

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive\\_Foods\\_Guide\\_NonHFC.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive_Foods_Guide_NonHFC.pdf)

## Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in HFC public schools

### Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).

Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the federal and state requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#). The CSDE's [Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools. For more information on HFC, visit the CSDE's [HFC](#) webpage.



Competitive foods include all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises separately from reimbursable meals served through the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). Under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include certain foods and beverages that are given to students while CNPs are operating.

#### Overview of Federal and State Requirements

All foods available for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals must comply with the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CNS). The CNS also applies to foods served in the Afterschool Snack Program (ASP).

All beverages available for sale to students on school premises, as part of and separately from reimbursable meals and ASP snacks, must comply with the state beverage statute ([C.G.S. Section 10-221g](#)). Beverages available for sale to students on school premises during the school day must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards ([81 FR 50131](#)).

## Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in non-HFC public schools

### Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the state and federal requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose not to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).

Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the state and federal requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in non-HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resource *Summary Chart: State and Federal Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools*. The CSDE's *Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools* provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in non-HFC public schools. For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage.



Competitive foods include all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises separately from reimbursable meals served through the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). Under [Section 10-215b-1](#) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include certain foods and beverages that are given to students while CNPs are operating.

#### Overview of State and Federal Requirements

All foods and beverages available for sale to students during the school day in non-HFC public schools must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards ([81 FR 50131](#)). Beverages must also comply with the state beverage statute ([C.G.S. Section 10-221g](#)) at all times. In addition to these nutrition standards, non-HFC public schools must comply with the following federal and state requirements:

- Connecticut's statute requiring the sale of nutritious and low-fat foods ([C.G.S. Section 10-221p](#));
- Connecticut's state competitive foods regulations ([Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#));
- the local educational agency's (LEA) school wellness policy, as required by the USDA's school wellness policy legislation ([Section 4 of Public Law 108-265](#) and the [Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010](#)); and

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive\\_Foods\\_Guide\\_NonHFC.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive_Foods_Guide_NonHFC.pdf)

# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from vending machines in HFC public schools

### Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from vending machines on school premises in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).



Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the federal and state requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#). The CSDE's [Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools. For more information on HFC, visit the CSDE's [HFC](#) webpage.

#### Overview of Federal and State Requirements

All foods available for sale to students from vending machines on school premises must comply with the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards \(CNS\)](#). All beverages available for sale to students from vending machines on school premises must comply with the state beverage statute ([C.G.S. Section 10-221q](#)). In addition, all beverages available for sale to students on school premises during the school day must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards ([81 FR 50131](#)).

Only the Smart Snacks beverage standards apply to HFC public schools. The food standards do not apply because the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) requires compliance with the stricter CNS, which supersedes the Smart Snacks food standards. The references to Smart Snacks in this document refer to the beverage standards. For a comparison of the CNS and Smart Snacks, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Comparison of the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#).

# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from vending machines in non-HFC public schools

### Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from vending machines on school premises in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose not to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).

Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the state and federal requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in non-HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: State and Federal Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#). The CSDE's [Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in non-HFC public schools. For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage.



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[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Vending\\_Machine\\_Requirements\\_NonHFC.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Vending_Machine_Requirements_NonHFC.pdf)

# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from school stores in HFC public schools

### Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from school stores, kiosks, and other school-based enterprises on school premises in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).



Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the federal and state requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#). The CSDE's [Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools. For more information on HFC, visit the CSDE's [HFC](#) webpage.

#### Overview of Federal and State Requirements

All foods available for sale to students from school stores on school premises must comply with the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards \(CNS\)](#). All beverages available for sale to students from school stores on school premises must comply with the state beverage statute ([C.G.S. Section 10-221q](#)). Beverages available for sale to students on school premises during the school day must also comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards ([81 FR 50131](#)).

Only the Smart Snacks beverage standards apply to HFC public schools. The food standards do not apply because the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) requires compliance with the stricter CNS, which supersedes the Smart Snacks food standards. The references to Smart Snacks in this document refer to the beverage standards. For a comparison of the CNS and Smart Snacks, refer to the CSDE's resource, [Comparison of the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#).

# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Non-HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from school stores in non-HFC public schools

### Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Non-HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from school stores, kiosks, and other school-based enterprises on school premises in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose not to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).



Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the state and federal requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in non-HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, *Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools* and *Summary Chart: State and Federal Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools*. The CSDE's *Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools* provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in non-HFC public schools. For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage.

#### Overview of Federal and State Requirements

All foods and beverages available for sale to students from school stores in non-HFC public schools must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards (81 FR 50131). Beverages must also comply with the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) at all times. In addition to the nutrition standards, school stores must comply with the following federal and state requirements:

- Connecticut's statute requiring the sale of nutritious and low-fat foods (C.G.S. Section 10-221p);
- Connecticut's state competitive foods regulations (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies); and
- the local educational agency's (LEA) school wellness policy, as required by the USDA's school wellness policy legislation (Section 4 of Public Law 108-265 and the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010).

These federal and state requirements determine what and when foods and beverages may be sold or given to students from school stores in non-HFC public schools. They also regulate the accrual of

# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling foods and beverages to students from fundraisers in HFC public schools

### Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from fundraisers in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).

Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the federal and state requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, *Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools* and *Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools*. The CSDE's *Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools* provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools. For information on HFC, visit the CSDE's HFC webpage.



Fundraisers are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. This includes any activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages, since funds may be raised as a result.



Examples of food and beverage fundraisers include sales of commercial products, such as potato chips and other snack foods, candy bars, cookies, muffins, frozen cookie dough, pies, water, and soft drinks; and sales of foods and beverages made from scratch, such as baked goods, popcorn, sandwiches, smoothies, coffee, and hot chocolate.

The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by selling healthy foods or conducting nonfood fundraisers. The CSDE's resource, *Healthy Fundraising*, provides suggestions for fundraising with nonfood items and activities.

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# CSDE Resource

## Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in Non-HFC Public Schools

Summarizes federal and state requirements for selling foods and beverages to students from fundraisers in non-HFC public schools

### Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in Non-HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving foods and beverages to students from fundraisers in Connecticut public schools that:

- participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and
- choose not to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.).

Connecticut public schools include all local and regional school districts, the regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

For guidance on how the state and federal requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in non-HFC public schools, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: State and Federal Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#). The CSDE's [Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) provides detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in non-HFC public schools.



Fundraisers are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. This includes any activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages, since funds may be raised as a result.



Examples of food and beverage fundraisers include sales of commercial products, such as potato chips and other snack foods, candy bars, cookies, muffins, frozen cookie dough, pies, water, and soft drinks; and sales of foods and beverages made from scratch, such as baked goods, popcorn, sandwiches, smoothies, coffee, and hot chocolate.

The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by selling healthy foods or conducting nonfood fundraisers. The CSDE's handout, [Healthy Fundraising](#), provides suggestions for fundraising with nonfood items and activities.

# CSDE Resource

## Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools

Links to resources on the federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Resources\\_Federal\\_State\\_Requirements\\_Competitive\\_Foods.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Resources_Federal_State_Requirements_Competitive_Foods.pdf)

### Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools

This document includes webpages and resources to assist schools with implementing the federal and state requirements for competitive foods in schools. These resources are from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and other organizations related to school nutrition. “Competitive foods” are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks served through the USDA’s [Child Nutrition Programs](#) (CNPs). Under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include certain foods and beverages (i.e., candy, tea, coffee, and soft drinks) that are given to students while CNPs are operating.

#### Federal and State Requirements

The federal and state requirements include:

- Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.);
- the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) under C.G.S. [Section 10-215e](#);
- USDA’s Smart Snacks nutrition standards for competitive foods ([81 FR 50131](#));
- Connecticut’s beverage statute for public schools ([C.G.S. Section 10-221q](#));
- Connecticut’s statute requiring public schools to sell nutritious and low-fat foods whenever foods are sold to students during the school day ([C.G.S. Section 10-221p](#));
- Connecticut’s competitive foods regulations ([Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#));
- USDA’s School Wellness Policy ([Section 4 of Public Law 108-265](#) and the [Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010](#));
- USDA’s regulation for revenue from nonprogram foods ([7 CFR 210.14 \(f\)](#)); and
- USDA’s policies and guidance for competitive foods ([USDA policy memos for the NSLP and SBF](#)).

These laws determine what and when foods and beverages may be sold or given to students. They also regulate the accrual of income from sales of competitive foods. Some laws apply differently depending on whether the school is a public school, private school, or residential child care institution (RCCI). Some laws apply during the school day, while others apply at all times or while the USDA’s CNPs are operating. When the federal and state laws supersede each other, schools must follow the stricter requirements. For an overview of these requirements, review the CSDE’s resource, [Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions](#).

# Questions?

Contact the state HFC coordinator or  
CSDE's school nutrition programs staff



<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification/Contact>

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Contact-Information-for-School-Nutrition-Programs>

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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