Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

This document describes Connecticut's regulations for competitive foods and how they interact with the other state and federal laws for competitive foods. These requirements apply to public schools, private school, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) 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 (SFSP) operated in schools.

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Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for Competitive Foods

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

Section 10-215b-1. Competitive foods

(a) No school food authority shall permit the sale or dispensing to students of extra food items anywhere on the school premises from thirty minutes prior to the start of any state or federally subsidized milk or food service program until thirty minutes after such program.

(b) "Extra food items" means tea, coffee, soft drinks and candy.

(c) "School food authority" means the governing body which has the legal authority to operate one or more school feeding programs and receive state or federal subsidies for the operation of any such program.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the Department of Corrections.

Section 10-215b-23. Accrual of income

The income from the sale to students of food items, anywhere on the school premises from 30 minutes prior to the start of any state or federally subsidized milk or food service program until thirty minutes after any such program, shall accrue to the school food authority for the benefit of state or federally subsidized milk or food service programs.

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Definitions for 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 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 period.

- The USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards (final rule, National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HHFKA of 2010) 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 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.

Dispensing means to give, provide, or distribute foods and beverages to students. This includes foods and beverages that are given to students at no charge, such as food rewards and classroom parties.

School premises include all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), or the governing authority district or school.

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Section 10-215b-1: Candy, Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks

Section 10-215b-1 of the state competitive foods regulations addresses restrictions for selling and dispensing (giving) 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, including during and after the school day.

- "Candy" includes all types of regular and sugar-free varieties, such as chocolates; candy bars; chocolate-covered nuts and fruits; hard candies and lollipops; chewy candies like caramels, taffy, and licorice; jelly candies like gumdrops, gummies, and jelly beans; and breath mints.

- "Coffee" and "tea" include all types, e.g., regular, decaffeinated, herbal, and iced.

- "Soft drinks" include all beverages (with or without carbonation) that contain water and/or juice and added sweeteners (including nutritive sweeteners, nonnutritive sweeteners, and sugar alcohols) and may also contain other ingredients such as edible acids, natural or artificial flavors and colors, and added nutrients. Examples of soft drinks include soda (regular and diet), sports drinks (regular, low-calorie, and zero calorie), sweetened beverages (with or without carbonation) that are not 100 percent juice (such as lemonade and fruit punch drinks), and flavored water with added sweeteners.

Depending on when CNPs operate, the CNS, state beverage statute, and Smart Snacks beverage standards may supersede Section 10-215b-1 or Section 10-215b-1 may supersede the CNS, state beverage statute, and Smart Snacks beverage standards. These requirements for public schools, private schools, and RCCIs are summarized below.

Candy in HFC public schools

Effective July 1, 2006, the state HFC statute supersedes the period specified in Section 10-215b-1 because HFC applies at all times, except for food sales that meet the specific food exemption criteria below. HFC public schools must follow the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals and all foods served in reimbursable ASP snacks. Candy does not comply with the CNS.

For information on the requirements for foods and beverages in HFC public schools, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools* and *Summary Chart of Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools*. For more resources, visit the CSDE's Connecticut Nutrition Standards and HFC webpages.

Food exemptions for HFC public schools

The state HFC statute does not allow sales of candy (or any other foods that do not comply with the CNS) to students on school premises unless the local board of education or school governing authority (BOE) has voted to allow exemptions, and: 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; and 3) the foods are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

- An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. Events involve a gathering of people in a social context, such as sports competitions, awards banquets, school concerts, and theatrical productions. For example, soccer games, school plays, and school debates are events, but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. For more information on food exemptions, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools*.

- The "school day" is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. For example, if school ends at 3:00 p.m., the school day is midnight to 3:30 p.m. A summer school program operated by the BOE is part of the regular school day.

- "Location" means where the event is being held. For example, cupcakes could be sold at the baseball field during a baseball game but cannot be sold in the school cafeteria while a baseball game is played on the baseball field.

If the event occurs while any CNPs are operating, Section 10-215b-1 supersedes the food exemptions allowed by the state HFC statute and extends restrictions for candy sales to exempted events. 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. This regulation applies even if the BOE has voted to allow food exemptions and the candy sales occur at events that meet the food exemption criteria of the state HFC statute. The examples below show how Section 10-215b-1 applies to candy.

- **Example 1:** The ASP operates from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A concession stand located at an event on school premises cannot sell candy to students during this period.

- **Example 2:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. During these periods, classroom parties cannot give candy to students and teachers cannot give candy to students as food rewards.

The CSDE encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating candy on school premises.

Candy sales prohibited in vending machines and school stores in HFC schools

HFC public schools can never sell candy to students from vending machines or school stores. The state HFC statute specifically prohibits food exemptions for vending machines and school stores. For information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in HFC public schools, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools* and *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools*.

Candy in non-HFC public schools, private schools, and RCCIs

Effective July 1, 2014, the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards prohibit candy sales to students on school premises during the school day. If any CNPs operate after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 supersedes Smart Snacks and extends restrictions for candy sales beyond the school day.

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. The examples below show how Section 10-215b-1 applies to candy.

- **Example 1:** The ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. An afterschool program on school premises cannot give candy to students during this period. **Note:** RCCIs might 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.

- **Example 2:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. During these periods, classroom parties cannot give candy to students and teachers cannot give candy to students as food rewards.

If CNPs are not operating, candy could be sold or given to students in non-HFC public schools, private schools, and RCCIs after the school day. For example, if the school day ends at 3:00 p.m., candy could be sold or given to students from 3:31 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. However, the CSDE encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating candy on school premises.

Coffee, tea, and soft drinks in public schools (HFC and non-HFC)

Effective July 1, 2006, the state beverage statute supersedes the period specified in Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations because it prohibits sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students at all times, except for sales that meet the specific exemption criteria below.

Beverage exemptions for public schools

The state beverage statute does not allow sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students in public schools unless the BOE has voted to allow exemptions, and: 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; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. The definitions for "event," "location," and "school day" are the same as food exemptions under the state HFC statute (refer to "Food exemptions for HFC public schools" in this document).

For more information on beverage exemptions, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools*. For information on allowable beverages, refer to the CSDE's resource, *Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Schools*, and visit the CSDE's Beverage Requirements webpage.

If any CNPs operate after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 supersedes the exemptions allowed by the state beverage statute and extends restrictions for sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to exempted events. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving 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. This regulation applies even if the BOE has voted to allow beverage exemptions; and the beverage sales occur at events that meet the exemption criteria of the state beverage statute.

The examples below show how Section 10-215b-1 applies to coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

- **Example 1:** The ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. During this period, a concession stand at a football game (exempted event) on school premises cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students and an afterschool program or club cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students. **Note:** RCCIs might 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.

- **Example 2:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. During these periods, classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students and teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as rewards.

The CSDE encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises.

Sales not allowed from vending machines or school stores

Public schools (HFC and non-HFC) can never sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from vending machines or school stores. The state beverage statute specifically prohibits beverage exemptions for vending machines and school stores. The state beverage statute applies to all public schools including schools that do not participate in the CNPs.

For more information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in HFC public schools, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools* and *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools*.

For more information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in non-HFC public schools, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Non-HFC Public Schools* and *Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools*.

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Coffee, tea, and soft drinks in private schools and RCCIs

Effective July 1, 2014, the Smart Snacks beverage standards apply to all beverages sold to students during the school day. However, depending on when CNPs operate, Section 10-215b-1 may supersede Smart Snacks and extend restrictions for coffee, tea, and soft drinks beyond the school day. The requirements for elementary and middle schools are different from high schools and are summarized below.

Elementary and middle schools in private schools and RCCIs

The Smart Snacks beverage standards prohibit sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to elementary and middle school students during the school day. If any CNPs are operating after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 supersedes Smart Snacks and extends beverage restrictions beyond the school day. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving 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. The examples below show how Section 10-215b-1 applies to coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

- **Example 1:** The ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. During this period, a concession stand at a football game on school premises cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students and an afterschool program or club cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students. **Note:** RCCIs might 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.

- **Example 2:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. During these periods, classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students and teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as rewards.

- **Example 3:** The At-Risk Afterschool Meals program operates from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Vending machines that are accessible to students cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks during this period and must be turned off. **Note:** 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.

If CNPs are not operating, private schools and RCCIs could sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises after the school day. For example, if the school day ends at 3:30 p.m., coffee, tea, and soft drinks could be sold to students from 4:01 p.m. through 11:59 p.m. However, the CSDE encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises.

High schools in private schools and RCCIs

The Smart Snacks beverage standards allow low-calorie and no-calorie beverages that meet the calorie and portion limits to be sold to high school students during the school day. Some examples include coffee, tea, and diet or low-calorie soft drinks. The calories for the beverage and its accompaniments (such as milk and sugar with coffee, or honey with tea) must be added together to determine if the serving complies with the Smart Snacks calorie limit.

Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes Smart Snacks because it prohibits selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. The examples below show how Section 10-215b-1 applies to coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

- **Example 1:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to high school students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Vending machines that are accessible to students cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks during this period and must be turned off.

- **Example 2:** The NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to high school students anywhere on school premises from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. During these periods, classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students and teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as rewards.

- **Example 3:** The ASP operates from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to high school students anywhere on school premises from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. During this period, a concession stand at a football game on school premises cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students and an afterschool program cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students. Note: RCCIs might 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.

Coffee, tea, and soft drinks that comply with the Smart Snacks calorie limit could be sold or given to high school students outside of the time specified by Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations. However, the CSDE encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises.

For more information on the requirements for foods and beverages in private schools and RCCIs, refer to the CSDE's resources, *Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions*, *Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards*, and *Summary Chart of Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions*.

Section 10-215b-23: Income Accrual

Section 10-215b-23 of state regulations addresses the accrual of income for competitive foods sold to students in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs that participate in the CNPs. This regulation requires that the nonprofit school food service account (NSFSA) must receive the income from all sales of foods and beverages to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs.

- "Income" means gross income. For example, if a vending machine contract specifies that the school food service department receives 20 percent of the total vending sales and vending machines operate from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after any CNPs, the school food service department must receive 100 percent of the total vending sales (gross income) during this period.

- "NSFSA" means the restricted account in which all the revenue from all food service operations conducted by the school food authority principally for the benefit of school children is retained and used only for the operation or improvement of the nonprofit school food service. This account shall include, as appropriate, non-federal funds used to support paid lunches as provided in 7 CFR 210.14(e), and proceeds from nonprogram foods as provided in 7 CFR 210.14(f).

All sales of foods and beverages anywhere on school premises during this period must comply with this regulation, including:

- foods that comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) and the Smart Snacks food standards;

- beverages that comply with the state beverage statute and the Smart Snacks beverage standards;
- foods sold in HFC public schools at events that comply with the food exemption criteria of the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f);
- beverages sold in public schools (HFC and non-HFC) at events that comply with the beverage exemption criteria of the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q);
- sales of tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items that students can exchange for foods and beverages;
- the portion of program and activity fees charged to cover the cost of foods and beverages provided to students;
- student orders for foods and beverages, such as fundraisers; and
- student donations in exchange for foods and beverages, such as fundraisers that offer candy to students in exchange for a donation.

The example below shows how Section 10-215b-23 applies to food and beverage sales.

- **Example:** The SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., the FFVP operates from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and the ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The NSFSA must receive the income from all foods and beverages sold to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information, refer to the CSDE's resource, Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: *Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools*.



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Resources

Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/allowable_beverages_public_schools.pdf

Beverage Requirements (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/beverage-requirements

C.G.S Section 10-215f: Certification that food meets nutrition standards:
https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_169.htm#sec_10-215f

C.G.S. Section 10-221q: Sale of beverages:
https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221q

Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods

Complying with Healthy Food Certification (CSDE training program):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program

Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/connecticut-nutrition-standards

CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools:
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/memos/om2018/om01-18.pdf

Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/food_beverage_exemptions_public_schools.pdf

Healthy Food Certification (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification

List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/list-of-acceptable-foods-and-beverages

Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_federal_state_laws_competitive_foods.pdf

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Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/questions_answers_connecticut_statutes_school_foods_beverages.pdf

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23):
https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215b/

Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_hfc.pdf

Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_nonhfc.pdf

Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_private_rcci.pdf

Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources_federal_state_requirements_competitive_foods.pdf

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):
https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/smart-snacks-nutrition-standards

Summary Chart of Federal and State Laws for Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_federal_state_laws_beverages_public_private_rcci.pdf

Summary Chart of Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_requirements_competitive_foods_hfc.pdf

Summary Chart of Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_requirements_competitive_foods_nonhfc.pdf

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Summary Chart of Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summarychart_requirements_competitive_foods_private_rcci.pdf

Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/connecticut_nutrition_standards_summary.pdf

Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE): https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_smart_snacks_nutrition_standards.pdf

USDA Final Rule: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HHFKA of 2010: https://www.fna.usda.gov/cn/fr-072916d

For more information, visit the CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage and Beverage Requirements webpage or contact the HFC Coordinator at the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841. This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/ct_competitive_foods_regulations_overview.pdf.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race; color; religious creed; age; sex; pregnancy; sexual orientation; workplace hazards to reproductive systems, gender identity or expression; marital status; national origin; ancestry; retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, intellectual disability; genetic information; learning disability; physical disability (including, but not limited to, blindness); mental disability (past/present history thereof); military or veteran status; status as a victim of domestic violence; or criminal record in state employment, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes. Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Attorney Louis Todisco, Connecticut State Department of Education, by mail 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103-1841; or by telephone 860-713-6594; or by email louis.todisco@ct.gov.

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In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
   Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
   1400 Independence Avenue, SW
   Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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