

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

This Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) document includes webpages and resources to assist schools with meeting the requirements of the federal and state laws for competitive foods in schools. “Competitive foods” are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and afterschool snacks served through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) [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.

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

Adult Education Programs

[Requirements for Selling Foods and Beverages in Adult Education Programs](#) (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/adultedhfc.pdf>

Beverages

[Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/allowable_beverages_public_schools.pdf

[Allowable Fluid Milk Substitutes for Non-disability Reasons in the School Nutrition Programs](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/specdiet/milk_substitutes_snp.pdf

[Beverage Requirements](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/beverage-requirements>

[C.G.S. Section 10-221q: Sale of beverages:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221q

[Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/food_beverage_exemptions_public_schools.pdf

[Requirements for Beverages Containing Water and Juice](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/water_juice_beverages_requirements.pdf

[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

[USDA Final Rule: Expanding Fluid Milk Options in Child Nutrition Programs:](#)

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/05/08/2026-09212/expanding-fluid-milk-options-in-child-nutrition-programs>

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[USDA Memo SP 08-2026 and CACFP 04-2026: Expanding Fluid Milk Options in Child Nutrition Programs:](#)

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/guidance-documents/fns-SP08-CACFP04-2026expandingFluidMilkOptions.pdf>

[Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025:](#)

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/222/text>

Cafeteria A La Carte Sales

[Cafeteria A La Carte Sales](#) (“Guidance and Resources” section of CSDE’s HFC webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources/#Cafeteria>

[Requirements for Cafeteria A La Carte Foods and Beverages in HFC Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_requirements_hfc.pdf

[Requirements for Cafeteria A La Carte Foods and Beverages in Non-HFC Public Schools](#)

(CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_requirements_nonhfc.pdf

[Requirements for Cafeteria A La Carte Foods and Beverages in Private Schools and RCCIs](#)

(CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_requirements_private_rcci.pdf

[Requirements for Cafeteria Entrees Sold A La Carte in Schools Participating in Healthy Food Certification](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_entrees_requirements_hfc.pdf

Celebrations

[Healthy Celebrations](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/healthy_celebrations.pdf

“[Celebrations](#)” section of the CSDE’s Resource List for Wellness Policies in Schools and Child Care (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_wellness_policy.pdf

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Competitive Foods

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

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods>

[Connecticut Regulations for Competitive Foods](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs) (CSDE's Laws and Regulations for Child Nutrition Programs webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs>

#ConnecticutRegulations

[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/om01-18.pdf):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/memos/om01-18.pdf>

[HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/hfc-public-schools) (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/hfc-public-schools>

[Laws and Regulations for Child Nutrition Programs](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs) (CSDE website):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs>

[Module 5: Other Laws for Foods and Beverages in HFC Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program) (CSDE's Complying with Healthy Food Certification Training Program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

[Non-HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/non-hfc-public-schools) (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/non-hfc-public-schools>

[Overview of Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_ct_competitive_foods_regulations.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_ct_competitive_foods_regulations.pdf

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

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_federal_state_laws_competitive_foods.pdf

[Private Schools and RCCIs](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/private-schools-and-rccis) (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/private-schools-and-rccis>

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

[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

[Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/smart-snacks-nutrition-standards>

[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

[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

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

Connecticut Statutes and Regulations for Competitive Foods

[C.G.S. Section 10-215. Lunches, breakfasts and other feeding programs for public school children and employees:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_169.htm#sec_10-215

[C.G.S. Section 10-215a. Nonpublic school and nonprofit agency participation in feeding programs:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_169.htm#sec_10-215a

[C.G.S. Section 10-215e. Nutrition standards for food that is not part of lunch or breakfast program:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_169.htm#sec_10-215e

[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 10-221o. Lunch Periods and Recess:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221o

[C.G.S. Section 10-221p. Boards to make available for purchase nutritious and low-fat foods:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221p

[C.G.S. Section 10-221q. Sale of beverages:](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221q

[C.G.S. Section 17a-818 \(formerly Section 10-303\). Food service facilities and vending stands in public buildings controlled by Department of Aging and Disability Services.](#)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_319l.htm#sec_17a-818

[Connecticut General Statutes for School Foods and Beverages](#) (CSDE's Laws and Regulations for Child Nutrition Programs webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs/state-statutes-and-regulations-for-school-foods-and-beverages#ConnecticutGeneralStatutes>

[Connecticut General Statutes for School Foods and Beverages](#) (CSDE's Laws and Regulations for Child Nutrition Programs webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/laws-and-regulations-for-child-nutrition-programs#ConnecticutGeneralStatutes>

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

[Module 5: Other Laws for Foods and Beverages in HFC Schools](#) (CSDE's Complying with Healthy Food Certification Training Program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

[Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies \(Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23\):](#)

https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215b/

Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS)

[Comparison of the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/comparison_chart_connecticut_nutrition_standards_and_smart_snacks.pdf

[Module 3: Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE's Complying with Healthy Food Certification 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>

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/connecticut_nutrition_standards_full_document.pdf

[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

[Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/connecticut_nutrition_standards_summary.pdf

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Culinary Programs

[Culinary Programs](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources/#CulinaryPrograms) (“Guidance and Resources” section of CSDE’s HFC webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources/#CulinaryPrograms>

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_hfc.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_hfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in Non-HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_nonhfc.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_nonhfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_private_rcci.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_private_rcci.pdf

[“School Culinary Programs” section of the CSDE’s Resource List for Competitive Foods in Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_competitive_foods.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_competitive_foods.pdf

Evaluating Foods

[CNS Worksheets](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/connecticut-nutrition-standards/evaluating-foods-for-cns-compliance/#CNSWorksheets) (“Evaluating Foods for CNS Compliance” section of CSDE’s Connecticut Nutrition Standards webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/connecticut-nutrition-standards/evaluating-foods-for-cns-compliance/#CNSWorksheets>

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 1: Snacks](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet1_snacks.xlsx) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet1_snacks.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 10: Evaluating Recipes for Sugars](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet10_evaluate_recipes_sugars.xlsx) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet10_evaluate_recipes_sugars.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 2: Yogurt and Pudding](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet2_yogurt_pudding.xlsx) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet2_yogurt_pudding.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 3: Smoothies](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet3_smoothies.xlsx) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet3_smoothies.xlsx

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[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 4: Fruits and Vegetables](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet4_fruits_vegetables.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 5: Soups](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet5_soups.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 6: Cooked Grains](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet6_cooked_grains.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 7: Entrees](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet7_entrees.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 8: Non-entree Combination Foods](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet8_nonentree_combination_food.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheet 9: Nutrient Analysis of Recipes](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cns/cns_worksheet9_nutrient_analysis_recipes.xlsx

[Connecticut Nutrition Standards Worksheets](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/connecticut-nutrition-standards/how-to#CNSWorksheets>

[Evaluating Foods for CNS Compliance](#) (CSDE's Connecticut Nutrition Standards webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/connecticut-nutrition-standards/evaluating-foods-for-cns-compliance>

[Guidance on Evaluating Recipes for Compliance with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#)

(CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/evaluating_recipes_cns_compliance.pdf

[Guide to Meeting the Whole Grain-rich Requirement for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/crediting/wgr_requirement_snp_grades_k-12.pdf

[How to Evaluate Commercial Food Products for Compliance with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/evaluate_commercial_food_products_cns.pdf

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

[How to Evaluate Foods Made from Scratch for Compliance with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/evaluate_scratch_foods_cns_compliance.pdf

[Module 4: Evaluating Foods for CNS Compliance](#) (CSDE's Complying with Healthy Food Certification Training Program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

[Records Retention Requirements for the School Nutrition Programs](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/adminrev/records_retention_snp.pdf

[Submitting Food and Beverage Products for Approval](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fblast/submitting_food_beverage_products.pdf

Food Rewards

"Alternatives to Food Rewards" section of the CSDE's [Resource List for Wellness Policies in Schools and Child Care](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_wellness_policy.pdf

[Nonfood Rewards: Promoting Healthy School Environments](#) (UConn Rudd Center):

<https://uconnruddcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2909/2023/08/Alternatives-to-Food-Rewards-Info-Sheet.pdf>

Fundraisers

[5 Ways to Plan a Healthy Fundraiser](#) (ICN):

<https://theicn.org/resources/1481/grab-in-5/116657/5-ways-to-plan-a-healthy-fundraiser.pdf>

[Best Practices for Healthy School Fundraisers](#) (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/best-practices-healthy-school-fundraisers>

[Module 6: Fundraisers](#) (CSDE's Complying with Healthy Food Certification Training Program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

[Fundraisers](#) ("Guidance and Resources" section of CSDE's HFC webpage):

[#Fundraisers](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources)

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[Fundraising](#) (Alliance for a Healthier Generation):

<https://www.healthiergeneration.org/take-action/schools/wellness-topics/smart-snacks/fundraising>

[Healthy Fundraisers](#) (Action for Healthy Kids):

<https://www.actionforhealthykids.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Healthy-Fundraisers-Tip-Sheet.pdf>

[Healthy Fundraising](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/healthy_fundraising.pdf

[Non-Food Ways to Raise Funds and Reward a Job Well Done](#) (Texas Department of Agriculture):

<http://www.squaremeals.org/Portals/8/files/publications/Non%20Food%20Ways%20to%20Reward.pdf>

[Promote Good Health While Raising Money for Schools](#) (The PEW Charitable Trust):

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2015/08/13/promote-good-health-while-raising-money-for-schools>

[Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_hfc.pdf

[Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_nonhfc.pdf

[Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_private_rcci.pdf

[Sample Fundraiser Form for HFC](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/sample_fundraiser_form_hfc.pdf

[State Agency Fundraiser Elections and Exemptions for Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/state_agency_fundraiser_elections_smart_snacks.pdf

[Sweet Deals: School Fundraising Can Be Healthy and Profitable](#) (Center for Science in the Public Interest):

<https://cspinet.org/resource/sweet-deals-school-fundraising-can-be-healthy-and-profitable>

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[Yes You Can! A Fresh Look at Healthy Fundraisers for Schools](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/dpho/dpho-fundraiser-guide.pdf) (East & Central Harlem District Public Health Office and the Strategic Alliance for Health):
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/dpho/dpho-fundraiser-guide.pdf>

Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Application

[Annual HFC Application](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-application) (CSDE's Healthy Food Certification webpage):
<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-application>

[Completing the Application Process for Healthy Food Certification](https://sde.ct.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eeAINsyJjECdIMa) (CSDE training module):
https://sde.ct.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eeAINsyJjECdIMa

[CSDE Operational Memorandum: Process for Submitting the Annual HFC Statement:](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-application#Instructions)
<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-application#Instructions>

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

[Instructions for Submitting Connecticut's Healthy Food Certification Statement](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/app/instructions_submitting_connecticut_healthy_food_certification_statement.pdf) (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/app/instructions_submitting_connecticut_healthy_food_certification_statement.pdf

[Responsibilities of District Contact Person for Healthy Food Certification](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/hfc_district_contact_responsibilities.pdf) (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/hfc_district_contact_responsibilities.pdf

HFC Documentation

[Annual HFC Documentation](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-documentation) (CSDE's Healthy Food Certification webpage):
<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/annual-hfc-documentation>

[Completing the Documentation Requirements for Healthy Food Certification](https://sde.ct.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cXP8pmPkASBsqpM) (CSDE Training Module):
https://sde.ct.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cXP8pmPkASBsqpM

[Districts Required to Submit Lists of Foods and Beverages for Healthy Food Certification Documentation](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/districts_required_to_submit_lists_foods_beverages_hfc_documentation.pdf) (CSDE):
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/districts_required_to_submit_lists_foods_beverages_hfc_documentation.pdf

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[Guidance for Completing the Healthy Food Certification Compliance Survey](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/guidance_completing_hfc_compliance_survey.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/guidance_completing_hfc_compliance_survey.pdf

[Guidance for Submitting Lists of Foods and Beverages for Healthy Food Certification Documentation](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/guidance_submitting_lists_hfc_documentation.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/guidance_submitting_lists_hfc_documentation.pdf

[Preview of the Healthy Food Certification \(HFC\) Compliance Survey Questions](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/preview_hfc_compliance_survey.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/doc/preview_hfc_compliance_survey.pdf

HFC Requirements

[Adult Education Programs](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources#AdultEducationPrograms) (“Guidance and Resources” section of CSDE’s HFC webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources#AdultEducationPrograms>

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

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

[Ensuring District Compliance with Healthy Food Certification](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/ensuring_district_compliance_hfc.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/ensuring_district_compliance_hfc.pdf

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

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/food_beverage_exemptions_public_schools.pdf

[Guidance and Resources](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification) (CSDE’s Healthy Food Certification webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification>

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

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification>

[Module 2: HFC Requirements](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program) (CSDE’s Complying with Healthy Food Certification Training Program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/hfc-training-program>

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

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_hfc.pdf

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[Responsibilities of District Contact Person for Healthy Food Certification](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/hfc_district_contact_responsibilities.pdf

List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages

[Contact Information for Vendors Selling Foods and Beverages Listed on the Connecticut State Department of Education's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fblast/contact_information_vendors_acceptable_foods_beverages.pdf

[List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/list-of-acceptable-foods-and-beverages>

[Submitting Food and Beverage Products for Approval](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fblast/submitting_food_beverage_products.pdf

[Summary of Updates to the Connecticut State Department of Education's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fblast/summary_updates_csde_list_acceptable_foods_beverages.pdf

Nonprogram Foods

[Nonprogram Foods: NSLP Regulations 7 CFR 210.14 \(f\): Revenue from nonprogram foods](#) (USDA):

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=4c211a738d6109939c6054a6286ac109&mc=true&node=pt7.4.210&rgn=div5s#se7.4.210_114

[Revenue from Nonprogram Foods \(7 CFR 210.14 \(f\)\)](#) (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/documents#RevenueNonprogramFoods>

[USDA Memo SP 13-2014: School Food Service Account Revenue from the Sale of Nonprogram Foods](#):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-food-service-account-revenue-sale-non-program-foods>

[USDA Memo SP 20-2016: Nonprofit School Food Service Account Nonprogram Food Revenue Requirements](#):

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP20-2016os.pdf>

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School Stores

[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/om01-18.pdf>

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/school_store_requirements_hfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/school_store_requirements_nonhfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/school_store_requirements_private_rcci.pdf

[School Stores](#) (“Guidance and Resources” section of CSDE’s HFC webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources>
#SchoolStores

School Wellness Policies

[Resources for Child Nutrition Programs](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/resources-for-child-nutrition-programs/documents>

[Resource List for Dietary Guidelines and Nutrition Information:](#)

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_dietary_guidelines.pdf

[Resource List for Wellness Policies for Schools and Child Care:](#)

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/resources/resources_wellness_policy.pdf

[School Wellness Policies](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/school-wellness-policies>

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Smart Snacks

[A Guide to Smart Snacks in School](#) (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/guide-smart-snacks-school>

[Comparison of the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/comparison_chart_connecticut_nutrition_standards_and_smart_snacks.pdf

[Final Rule: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HHS of 2010](#) (81 FR 50132):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/fr-072916d>

[Questions and Answers on Smart Snacks](#) (USDA):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/smartsnacksqa.pdf>

[Requirements for Grain-only Entrees at Breakfast under the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/smart-snacks-nutrition-standards/smart_snacks_grain_only_entrees_breakfast

[Smart Snacks in Schools](#) (USDA webpage):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/nutrition-standards/smartsnacks>

[Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/smart-snacks-nutrition-standards>

[Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards for Paired Exempt Foods](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/smart_snacks_paired_exempt_foods.pdf

[Smart Snacks Product Calculator](#) (Alliance for a Healthier Generation):

<https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/>

[Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_smart_snacks_nutrition_standards.pdf

[Tools for Schools: Focusing on Smart Snacks](#) (USDA webpage):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>

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

Vending Machines

[C.G.S. Section 17a-818 \(formerly Section 10-303\): Food service facilities and vending stands in public buildings controlled by Department of Aging and Disability Services.](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_319l.htm#sec_17a-818)

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_319l.htm#sec_17a-818

[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)

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/nslp/memos/om2018/om01-18.pdf>

[Placement of Vending Machines in Schools: ADS-BESB Right of First Refusal](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/regulations#PlacementVendingMachines) (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/competitive-foods/regulations#PlacementVendingMachines>

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_hfc.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_hfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_nonhfc.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_nonhfc.pdf

[Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_private_rcci.pdf) (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_private_rcci.pdf

[Vending Machines](https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources#VendingMachines) ("Guidance and Resources" section of CSDE's HFC webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/guidance-and-resources#VendingMachines>

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For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage, [Healthy Food Certification](#) webpage, and [Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#) 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/hfc/resources_federal_state_requirements_competitive_foods.pdf.



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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; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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