

Smart Snacks Rule – FAQ – revised 4-8-15

1. What is the Smart Snacks Rule?

As part of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2011, USDA issued their final rule on competitive food sold on school campuses. All food sold on campus, to include vending, school stores, fundraisers, before and during the school day (midnight to 30 minutes after the end of the school day) is subject to this new regulation. All food sold on campus must be in compliance with the regulations.

2. What is considered a fundraiser?

USDA considers a fundraiser to be an event that includes any activity during which currency/tokens/tickets, etc. are exchanged for the sale/purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. For example, giving away food but suggesting a donation would be considered a fundraiser, since funds may be raised as a result.

3. When are school-sponsored fundraisers allowable?

School-sponsored food-based fundraisers which meet the nutrition standards as defined by the Smart Snacks rule are permitted to occur on any school day provided it is 30 minutes past the last meal service period.

4. Do the Smart Snacks requirements apply if items are sold to someone other than a student?

The Smart Snacks nutrition requirements apply only when foods outside of the school food service program are sold or are available to be sold to students during the school day. These requirements are not applicable to food sold to adults and food sold 30 minutes after the end of the school day.

5. If pizza or any other kind of food is sold in the classroom, is it subject to the Smart Snacks Rule?

All food sold to students anywhere on campus during the school day is subject to the rule. The Smart Snacks rule does not apply to food given away to students.

6. Are vending machines, school stores and/or snack bars considered fundraising for purposes of the Smart Snacks rule?

No. Vending machines, school stores, and/or snack bars are not considered fundraisers. All food sold in vending machines, school stores, etc. must be in compliance with the nutritional requirements of the Smart Snacks rule.

7. Can competitive foods sold to students during the school day include ready-to-eat combination foods of meat/meat alternate and grain products (such as pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken sandwiches/biscuits)?

Competitive foods consisting of ready-to-eat food combinations may only be sold on campus during the school day by the food service department.

8. Will the Smart Snacks rule affect my concession stand sales during after-school athletic events?

No. Food sold 30 minutes after the end of the school day and food sold off campus are not regulated by the Smart Snacks rule.

9. Am I required to maintain documentation to support all food items sold on campus during the school day are in compliance with the Smart Snacks rule?

Yes. Any organization selling food on campus must maintain labels and other supporting documentation to substantiate all food sold was in compliance.

10. Previously, schools were allowed a certain number of exempt days to hold infrequent food sales fundraisers, is it still possible to apply for an exemption?

No, per the April 7, 2015 DCPS Board meeting, the DCPS School Board voted to no longer allow exemptions for Food Sales Fundraising, so no exemptions will be granted beginning the 2015-16 school year. Only food sales fundraisers that meet the nutrition guidelines will be allowed.

Smart Snacks Rule Nutritional Requirements

<u>Food</u>	<u>Requirement</u>
Calories	Entrée: <350 Calories/Serving Snack: <200 Calories/Serving
Fat	<35% of Total Calories From Fat as Packaged/Served
Sat Fat	<10% of Total Calories From Fat as Packaged/Served
Trans Fat	Zero Trans Fat/Serving as Packaged/Served
Total Sugar	<35% of Weight of Total Sugars Per Item
Sodium	Entrée: <480 mg Snack: <230 mg
Grain	Must Be Whole-Grain Rich (<50% Whole Grain) or Have Fruit, Vegetable or Dairy Product as First Ingredient
Combination Foods	Must Contain Either 1/4 Cup Fruit or Vegetable
<u>Beverages</u>	
Elementary & Middle	Water, Plain Carbonated or Non-Carbonated, Any Size Milk, Unflavored Low-Fat or Non-Fat and Flavored, Non-Fat (8oz max) 100% Fruit or Vegetable Juice (8oz max) 100% Fruit or Vegetable Juice Diluted With Water, Carbonated or Not (8oz max) No Caffeine Allowed
High (9-12 Only)	All Above Options with 12 oz. max Calorie-Free Flavored Water, Carbonated or Not (20oz max) Calorie-Free (20 oz. max) or Low-Calorie (12 oz. max) Carbonated Beverages No Time or Location Restrictions on Approved Beverages No Caffeine Restrictions

Per the regulations, you can sell food items that meet the Smart Snacks nutritional requirements beginning 30 minutes after the last lunch period. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation website has a Smart Snack calculator that can be used to determine if a particular item meets the appropriate nutrition requirements. Below is a link to the Smart Snacks calculator:

https://www.healthiergeneration.org/take_action/schools/snacks_and_beverages/smart_snacks/alliance_product_calculator/