

USDA Ruling on Fundraisers, and Smart Snacks in School Rules

Culinary Arts Programs

The Smart Snacks nutrition standards have no impact on the culinary education programs' *curriculum* in schools, nor do they have any impact on foods sold to *adults* at any time or to students outside of the school day. However, **nutrition standards do apply to all foods sold to students** on the school campus during the school day, including food prepared and/or sold by culinary education programs. It may take time to modify procedures if your school sells food prepared by culinary education programs to students. We encourage you to use the fundraising exemption if necessary.

Conclusion

We care about our kids. We want to ensure that our students have the best environment in which to learn, grow and thrive. Healthy kids are smarter kids. We encourage all school staff, clubs and PTAs to work towards implementing these meaningful standards that complement the healthier school meals introduced last fall and make *the healthy choice, the easy choice* for students across the school community. We can do this by encouraging snacks that contain whole grains, low-fat dairy, fruits, vegetables or protein as their main ingredients, and placing sensible limits on sugar, fat and salt. We can positively impact all of our students

product. For a safe snack list, visit www.Snacksafely.org.

Q: What about birthday treats or other special events?

A: The USDA has no role in regulating foods brought from home. Time-honored traditions like treats for birthdays or foods at an after-school sporting event are not subject to these standards. Your local School Wellness Policy and Allergy Policy is an appropriate place to promote healthy foods* brought from home/provided in the classroom.

Q: Do vending machines fall into this requirement?

A: Yes. Vending machines and school stores would be required to follow Smart Snacks standards.

Q: What is considered a fundraiser?

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