

Frequently Asked Questions: Fundraisers & Smart Snack/Competitive Foods

Parent Permission Slips

- “If a parent gives their student permission to eat, drink, or sell non-compliant foods and beverages during the school day – is that allowable?”
 - Non-compliant foods and beverages are not to be sold to students by any entity during the school day, regardless of parental permissions.

Student Stores & Snack Shacks

- “Must PTA/PTO and other parent volunteer groups meet nutrition standards for all food and beverages during the school day?”
 - Yes, these groups must also keep all records of receipts, nutrition labels, and other documents for compliance of their “mini store”.
- Student Stores:
 - “What are the guidelines, and how can I tell if the food items I want to sell meet the guidelines?”
 - Smart Snack Resources:
 - Alliance for a Healthier Generation: www.healthiergeneration.org/smartsnacks
 - Smart Snack calculator, list of approved products, and other helpful information.
 - USDA Smart Snacks site: www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/smart-snacks-schools
 - Summary information, regulations and details.
 - CA Department of Education – Competitive Foods website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/compfoods.asp>
 - Contact LUSD Nutrition Services for any questions! We are happy to come to your school site, or PTA meeting, to talk about the regulations in depth and to look at your food labels.
 - “What are the guidelines pertaining to parents serving prepared foods in snack shacks during school hosted sports games (i.e. hot dogs, pizza, nachos, bbq, and crock pot items)?”
 - Must be conducted in accordance with all State and local regulations. Anyone preparing foods on campus for others should have training in food preparation safety and should contact the local health department to ensure no special food permits are required for the activity.
 - San Joaquin Environmental Health Department: http://www.sjcehd.com/Programs/Consumer_Protection/food_and_restaurant_inspections.htm
 - Best practices guide from Keenan Risk Advisor available and link for Food Safety from California Health Department. <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/FDB%20Food%20Safety%20Program.aspx>
 - Advanced Notice of Fundraiser must be filled out and approved prior to sales taking place.
 - Nutrition Services has pre-approved compliant foods and beverages that can be purchased for sales in fundraisers, snack bars, etc. Please inquire for list of items, and pricing.

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Otter Pops

- “Otter Pops are a great fundraiser. Can they be sold to students during the school day?”
 - Otter Pops are not compliant with Smart Snack food and beverage regulations and cannot be sold during the school day. Otter pops are also not compliant to be advertised, or marketed to students.

Soda, Candy, Chocolate, Cake, Donuts

- “What about other foods and drinks such as soda, candy, chocolate, cakes and donuts?”
 - These items are not allowable for sales during the school day, unless they meet the nutrition requirements for compliant foods.

Classroom Parties

- “What are some suggestions for healthy classroom parties?”
 - Parents and teachers are encouraged to give students healthy options during classroom parties. Healthy foods given to students can be fun, and encouraging, to teach and give students the tool on how to make the healthy choice outside of school.
 - Examples: fresh fruit parties, where students can build their own fresh fruit cup with toppings; or, parents sign up for 4 categories in a class party: something crunchy, something fresh, something sweet, something savory (crackers, cheese, fresh fruit, etc.).

Juice it up, and Jamba Juice

- “Smoothies are compliant since they are all fruit, right?”
 - Under the beverage requirements for Smart Snack Fundraisers, a smoothie can be considered a fruit or a beverage. Calories, sugar, saturated fat, sodium, and portion size are still tracked for these items and must be under the minimum requirements. Not all flavors are compliant from these companies. Please obtain nutrition facts and ingredient labels prior to fundraiser.

Donated Items

- “If foods or beverages are donated for fundraising purposes during the school day, do they still need to meet the nutrition requirements for food and beverages under Smart Snacks/Competitive Foods?”
 - Yes, all foods and beverages sold during the school day must meet nutrition requirements.

Sales to Adults: including teachers, administration, and parents

- “Can non-compliant foods be sold to adults during the school day?”
 - Yes, Smart Snack/Competitive Foods regulations do not pertain to adult food and beverage sales, only to food and beverages sold to students.

Donuts for Dad, Muffins with Mom, and other food celebrations

- “What are the rules, and some suggestions for food celebrations that meet guidelines?”
 - During special celebrations at schools, if food or beverages are sold to students they must meet Smart Snack/Competitive Foods regulations, including fundraisers that have historically “always” taken place.
 - For compliant muffins, and other baked treats, inquire with Nutrition Services on how we can partner with you to provide healthy, fresh baked items for your food celebrations.