

# Smart Snacks in School Policy

Idaho State Department of Education - Child Nutrition Programs

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The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 directed the USDA to establish nutrition standards for all foods and beverages sold to students in school during the school day, including foods sold through school fundraisers. (Foods sold at afterschool sporting events or other activities will not be subject to these requirements.) The new *Smart Snacks in School* nutrition standards will help make the healthy choice the easy choice by offering the students more of the foods and beverages that research has shown are essential for health, such as whole grains, fruits and vegetables, leaner protein, lower-fat dairy – while limiting foods with high sugar, fat and salt content.

Please see additional information and guidelines on the specific nutrition standards at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/legislation/allfoods.htm>

USDA has given each state the flexibility to set a certain number of fundraisers (exemptions) that sell foods or beverages which do not meet the nutrition standards. Please note, if a fundraiser provides foods and beverages which follow the legislation, exemptions are not necessary. If foods and beverages do not follow the new *Smart Snacks in School* standards, the exemption rule must be followed.

The Idaho State Department of Education administered a statewide survey requesting input from all school districts on the number of recommended exempted fundraisers. Originally it was determined a statewide policy would not fit all situations and for that reason, in an effort to be supportive to all school districts, the Idaho State Department of Education established the policy of “local control” for determining the number of exempted fundraisers at the local school district level. Since this Idaho policy was published USDA issued new guidance on April 17, 2014 (state policy SP36-2014) which states “***The State agency may not delegate the authority to specify exempt fundraiser frequency to local educational agencies (LEAs) or to school food authorities (SFAs).***”

For that reason the Idaho State Department of Education has worked with USDA and following Idaho Smart Snack has been revised to the following:

- Idaho State Department of Education has set a limit of 10 exempted fundraisers per year per school site. This averages to be approximately one exempted fundraiser per month.
- Each fundraiser must not be longer than 4 consecutive days of duration.
- LEAs will have permission to request approval for additional numbers of fundraisers to be held in their schools. This process can be found on the Idaho State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Smart Snack website.

- The standards would not apply to items sold during non-school hours, weekends, off-campus fundraising events, or foods intended to be consumed outside of school (cookie dough, raw pizza kits, etc.)
  - School hours are considered midnight from the day before to 30 minutes after school
- No exempt fundraiser foods or beverages may be sold in competition with school meals in the food service area during the meal service

The Idaho Child Nutrition Programs state agency will monitor compliance with the standards through a review of local educational agency records as part of the state agency administrative review.

Contact the Idaho State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs for technical assistance and questions at (208) 332-6820.

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