

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

This document summarizes the federal and state laws for selling and giving competitive foods to students in Connecticut public schools, private schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs). It also indicates whether these laws apply to sponsors of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) [Child Nutrition Programs](#) (CNP) in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs; and non-sponsors of the CNP in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs.

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# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

## Overview of Categories

Three categories of laws for competitive foods determine what and when foods and beverages may be sold or given to students on school premises and where the income must accrue.

### Category 1: Nutrition standards for foods and beverages

- Healthy Food Certification (HFC): [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.)
- Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS): C.G.S. [Section 10-215e](#)
- USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards for competitive foods: [81 FR 50131](#)
- State beverage statute for public schools: [C.G.S. Section 10-221q](#)

### Category 2: Restrictions for selling and giving foods and beverages

- State statute requiring public schools to sell nutritious and low-fat foods whenever foods are sold to students during the school day: [C.G.S. Section 10-221p](#)
- State regulation restricting selling and giving candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students: [Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#)
- Local educational agency's (LEA) school wellness policy (SWP), as required by USDA: [Section 4 of Public Law 108-265](#) and the [Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010](#) (Final Rule [81 FR 50151](#))

### Category 3: Accrual of income from selling foods and beverages

- State regulation restricting for accrual of income: [Section 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#)
- USDA's regulation for revenue from nonprogram foods: [7 CFR 210.14 \(f\)](#)
- State statute requiring the right of first refusal for the Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services, Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (ADS-BESB) to place vending machines in public schools: [C.G.S. Section 17a-818](#)

These laws apply differently depending on the type of school. Some laws apply during the school day, while others apply at all times or while the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) [Child Nutrition Programs](#) are operating. When the laws differ, the stricter requirements apply. For guidance on how these requirements apply to different sources of foods and beverages in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs, refer to the resources listed at the end of this document. For a detailed list of resources on complying with the requirements, refer to the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) [Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools](#).

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## Summary Charts

The charts in this document indicate whether each law applies to CNP sponsors or non-CNP sponsors in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs.

### Category 1: Nutrition standards for foods and beverages

Category 1 law	Description
<p><b>L1 State:</b> C.G.S. <a href="#">Section 10-215f</a>: Certification that food meets nutrition standards (Healthy Food Certification)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2006, the state Healthy Food Certification (HFC) statute requires that each BOE for all Connecticut public schools participating in the NSLP must certify annually to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) whether they will 1) comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS); and 2) allow exemptions for sales of noncompliant foods that meet the exemption criteria of the state HFC statute. Schools that choose the healthy food option (i.e., comply with the CNS) receive additional state funding. Public schools are not required to comply with the CNS but must certify each year whether they will or will not comply with the CNS. Private schools and RCCIs are not eligible for HFC.</p> <p><b>Food exemptions:</b> Foods that do not comply with the CNS cannot be sold to students on school premises unless the local BOE votes to allow exemptions, and: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the foods are not sold from a vending machine or school store. For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools</a>. Note: The event’s selling timeframe must also comply with the state competitive foods regulations, i.e., cannot occur from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs (refer to Sections <a href="#">10-215b-1</a> and <a href="#">10-215b-23</a> of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies in this document).</p> <p>For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools</a> and visit the “<a href="#">Apply</a>” section of the CSDE’s <a href="#">HFC</a> webpage.</p>

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Category 1 law	Description
<p><b>L2 State:</b> C.G.S. <a href="#">Section 10-215e</a>: Nutrition standards for food that is not part of lunch or breakfast program (Connecticut Nutrition Standards)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2006, this state statute required the CSDE to develop nutrition standards for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals through the CNPs. The CNS also applies to foods served in reimbursable ASP snacks. These standards are required for public schools that choose the healthy food option under the state HFC statute (C.G.S. 10-215f). For information on the specific requirements, refer to the CSDE's <a href="#">Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards</a> and the full standards document, <a href="#">Connecticut Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools</a>; and visit the CSDE's <a href="#">CNS</a> webpage.</p> <p>* <b>Note:</b> The CNS applies only to public schools that choose the healthy food option of HFC. Public schools are not required to comply with the CNS but must certify each year whether they will or will not comply with the CNS.</p>

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Category 1 law	Description
<p><b>L3 State:</b> C.G.S. <a href="#">Section 10-221q</a>: Sale of beverages</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2006, the state beverage statute defines five categories of beverages that are allowed for sale to students in Connecticut public schools: milk; 100 percent juice; nondairy milk substitutes; beverages containing only water and juice; and water. Each category must meet specific nutrition requirements. This statute applies to all Connecticut public schools, even if they do not choose the healthy food option of HFC or do not participate in the CNPs. For information on the specific federal and state beverage requirements, refer to the CSDE’s resources, <a href="#">Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools</a> and <a href="#">Beverage Requirements for Connecticut Public Schools</a> (presentation), and visit the CSDE’s <a href="#">Beverage Requirements</a> webpage.</p> <p><b>Beverage exemptions:</b> Beverages that do not comply with the state beverage statute cannot be sold to students in public schools unless the local BOE votes to allow exemptions and: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. The definitions for event and location are the same as food exemptions under the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) (refer to “<a href="#">Food exemptions</a>” in this document. For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools</a>.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The event’s selling timeframe must also comply with the state competitive foods regulations, i.e., cannot occur from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs (refer to Sections <a href="#">10-215b-1</a> and <a href="#">10-215b-23</a> of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies in this document).</p>

## Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

Category 1 law	Description
<p><b>L4 Federal:</b> Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (<a href="#">81 FR 50131</a>)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2014, this USDA regulation defines the nutrition standards required for competitive foods sold to students in all schools and institutions that participate in the NSLP and SBP. For information on the specific Smart Snacks standards, refer to the CSDE's <a href="#">Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards</a> and <a href="#">Questions and Answers on Smart Snacks</a> and visit the CSDE's <a href="#">Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards</a> webpage.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> While Smart Snacks addresses foods and beverages, only the beverage standards apply to HFC public schools. The food standards do not apply to HFC public schools because the state HFC statute (C.G.S Section 10-215f) requires compliance with the stricter CNS, which supersedes the Smart Snacks food standards. For a comparison of the CNS and Smart Snacks, refer to the CSDE's <a href="#">Comparison of the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards</a>.</p>

## Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

Category 1 law	Description
<p><b>L5 Federal:</b> School Wellness Policy (<a href="#">Public Law 108-265</a>) and the <a href="#">Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010</a> (Final Rule <a href="#">81 FR 50151</a>)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>The Child Nutrition and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act of 2004 (<a href="#">Public Law 108-265</a>) required all schools and institutions participating in the NSLP and SBP to develop a SWP by the first day of school year 2006-07. Section 204 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (<a href="#">Public Law 111-296</a>) strengthened the SWP law by adding requirements for public participation, transparency, and implementation. These requirements were effective August 29, 2016, under USDA' s final rule, <a href="#">Local School Wellness Policy Implementation Under the HHFKA of 2010</a>.</p> <p>Among other requirements, the LEA's SWP must include nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages that are available for sale to students, or provided to students free of charge, on school premises during the school day. At a minimum, the LEA's SWP for foods and beverages must meet all applicable federal and state nutrition standards and requirements. For more information on SWPs, visit the CSDE's <a href="#">School Wellness Policies</a> webpage.</p>

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## Category 2: Restrictions for selling and giving foods and beverages to students

Category 2 law	Description
<p><b>L6 State:</b> C.G.S. <a href="#">Section 10-221p</a>: Nutritious and low-fat foods available for sale</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2004, this state statute requires that whenever foods are available for purchase by students in Connecticut public schools during the school day, nutritious and low-fat foods must also be available for sale at the same time, either at the location of the food sales or elsewhere in the school. The statute defines “nutritious and low-fat foods” as low-fat dairy foods (such as low-fat cheese and low-fat or nonfat yogurt) and fresh or dried fruit. Low-fat milk is a beverage and cannot be used to meet the statutory requirement for low-fat foods. C.G.S. Section 10-221p does not apply to the ASP, unless it begins before the end of the school day. This statute applies to all Connecticut public schools, even if they do not choose the healthy food option of HFC or do not participate in the CNPs. For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages</a>.</p>

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Category 2 law	Description
<p><b>L7 State:</b> <a href="#">Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:</a> Competitive foods (candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective August 25, 1992, this state regulation prohibits selling and giving candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. This includes selling candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students at events on school premises that meet the food exemption criteria of the state HFC statute (C.G.S Section 10-215f) and the beverage exemption criteria of the state beverage statute (C.G.S Section 10-221q).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Candy” includes all types of regular and sugar-free varieties, such as chocolates; candy bars; chocolate-covered nuts and fruits; hard candies and lollipops; chewy candies like caramels, taffy, and licorice; jelly candies like gumdrops, gummies, and jelly beans; and breath mints.</li> <li>• “Coffee” and “tea” include all types, e.g., regular, decaffeinated, herbal, and iced.</li> <li>• “Soft drinks” include all beverages (with or without carbonation) that contain water and/or juice and added sweeteners (including nutritive sweeteners, nonnutritive sweeteners, and sugar alcohols) and may also contain other ingredients such as edible acids, natural or artificial flavors and colors, and added nutrients. Examples of soft drinks include soda (regular and diet), sports drinks (regular, low-calorie, and zero calorie), sweetened beverages (with or without carbonation) that are not 100 percent juice (such as lemonade and fruit punch drinks), and flavored water with added sweeteners.</li> </ul> <p>Section 10-215b-1 applies to all schools and institutions that participate in the CNPs, including public schools, private schools, and RCCIs. For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Overview of Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations</a>.</p>

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## Category 3: Restrictions or accrual of income from selling foods and beverages to students

Category 3 law	Description
<p><b>L8 State:</b> <a href="#">Section 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:</a> Accrual of Income</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective August 25, 1992, this state regulation requires that the income from all foods and beverages sold to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs (including during and after the school day) must accrue to the nonprofit school food service account. This includes the income from sales of foods and beverages to students at events on school premises that that meet the food exemption criteria of the state HFC statute (C.G.S Section 10-215f) and the beverage exemption criteria of the state beverage statute (C.G.S Section 10-221q).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Income” means gross income.</li> <li>• “Nonprofit school food service account” means the restricted account in which all of the revenue from all food service operations conducted by the school food authority (SFA) principally for the benefit of school children is retained and used only for the operation or improvement of the nonprofit school food service. This account shall include, as appropriate, non-federal funds used to support paid lunches as provided in <a href="#">7 CFR 210.14(e)</a>, and proceeds from nonprogram foods as provided in <a href="#">7 CFR 210.14(f)</a>.</li> </ul> <p>Section 10-215b-1 applies to all schools and institutions that participate in the CNPs, including public schools, private schools, and RCCIs. For more information, refer to the CSDE’s <a href="#">Overview of Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations</a> and <a href="#">CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools</a>.</p>

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Category 3 law	Description
<p><b>L9 Federal:</b> Revenue from Nonprogram Foods (<a href="#">7 CFR 210.14 (f)</a>)</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor *</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Effective July 1, 2011, this USDA regulation requires that all revenue from the sale of nonprogram foods must accrue to the NSFSFA. “Nonprogram foods” are foods and beverages purchased using funds from the NSFSFA and sold to students (other than reimbursable meals and ASP snacks served through the CNPs) and adults at any time or location on school premises. Nonprogram foods include all foods and beverages sold in schools, adult meals, outside-of-school hours, and catering or vending activities. They also include competitive foods purchased using funds from the NSFSFA, such as cafeteria a la carte sales or foods and beverages for vending machines operated by the food service department. For most school food authorities (SFAs), cafeteria a la carte sales account for the majority of nonprogram foods. Another common source is vending machines operated by the NSFSFA.</p> <p>This regulation also requires that when school food service labor is used to prepare foods for an outside entity (such as catering), the SFA must ensure that all costs, including labor and any other costs incurred, are covered by the entity being served by the school food service program. For more information, refer to <a href="#">USDA Memo SP 13-2014: School Food Service Account Revenue from the Sale of Nonprogram Foods</a> and <a href="#">USDA Memo SP 20-2016: Nonprofit School Food Service Account Nonprogram Food Revenue Requirements</a>.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Nonprogram foods are different from competitive foods. Competitive foods include all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises separately from reimbursable meals served through the CNPs, regardless of the funding source that purchased them. Some competitive foods are nonprogram foods because they are purchased using funds from the NSFSFA, but many are not. For example, funds from the NSFSFA might be used to purchase competitive foods that are sold from vending machines in the cafeteria; however, NSFSFA funds are not typically used to purchase competitive foods that are sold from school stores and fundraisers.</p>

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Category 3 law	Description
<p><b>L10 State:</b>  <a href="#">C.G.S. Section 17a-818</a>: Food service facilities and vending stands in public buildings controlled by Department of Aging and Disability Services. Permissible uses of vending machine income.</p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private school: Not CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: CNP sponsor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> RCCI: Not CNP sponsor</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">C.G.S. Section 17a-818</a> (formerly Section 10-303) requires that the Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services, Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (ADS-BESB) has the right of first refusal to place vending machines in public buildings, including schools. A school district must grant a permit to ADS-BESB to operate a vending machine if the school district has determined that a vending machine is desirable in the location.</p> <p>School districts cannot allow another organization to place a vending machine in a school building unless 1) the school district has first offered to grant a permit to ADS-BESB to operate the vending machine; and 2) ADS-BESB has declined the opportunity. C.G.S. Section 17a-818 does not apply to vending machines that are owned and operated by the school district without outside assistance. For additional guidance, refer to "<a href="#">Placement of Vending Machines (ADS-BESB)</a>" in the "Laws/Regulations" section of the CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage.</p>

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

## Glossary

The definitions below apply to the requirements for competitive foods in schools.

**Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs):** The federally funded child nutrition programs administered by the USDA, including the [National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\)](#), [School Breakfast Program \(SBP\)](#), [Afterschool Snack Program \(ASP\)](#) of the NSLP, [Seamless Summer Option \(SSO\)](#) of the NSLP, [Special Milk Program \(SMP\)](#), [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program \(FFVP\)](#), [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\)](#) [At-risk Afterschool Meals](#) operated in schools, and [Summer Food Service Program \(SFSP\)](#) operated in schools.

**Competitive foods:** All foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks served through the CNPs. Under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks that are given to students on school premises while any CNPs are operating, including during and after the school day.

**Giving:** Providing foods and beverages free of any charge, contribution, or suggested donations; and without the exchange of tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items to obtain foods and beverages.

**Sales:** The exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages. Under Connecticut's statutes and regulations for competitive foods, sales include coupons and similar items that are given to students (such as food rewards) and can be exchanged for foods and beverages. However, the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards do not apply when coupons and similar items are given to students.

**School day:** The period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. For example, if school ends at 3:00 p.m., the school day is midnight to 3:30 p.m. A summer school program operated by the board of education or school governing authority (BOE) is part of the regular school day.

**School premises:** All areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocational-technical school system (Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)), or the governing authority district or school.

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## Resources for HFC Public Schools

Beverage Requirements (CSDE webpage):

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

Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE webpage):

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

Complying with Healthy Food Certification (CSDE training program):

<https://portal.ct.gov/sde/nutrition/healthy-food-certification/related-resources>  
#ComplyingHFC

Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

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

Healthy Food Certification (CSDE webpage):

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

HFC Public Schools (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

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

Overview of Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview\\_ct\\_competitive\\_foods\\_regulations.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_ct_competitive_foods_regulations.pdf)

Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/questions\\_answers\\_connecticut\\_statutes\\_school\\_foods\\_beverages.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/questions_answers_connecticut_statutes_school_foods_beverages.pdf)

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

Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements\\_competitive\\_foods\\_hfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_hfc.pdf)

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

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser\\_requirements\\_hfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_hfc.pdf)

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in  
HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary\\_programs\\_requirements\\_hfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_hfc.pdf)

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

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in

HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending\\_machine\\_requirements\\_hfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_hfc.pdf)

Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources\\_federal\\_state\\_requirements\\_competitive\\_foods.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources_federal_state_requirements_competitive_foods.pdf)

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary\\_chart\\_requirements\\_competitive\\_foods\\_hfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_requirements_competitive_foods_hfc.pdf)

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

## Resources for Non-HFC Public Schools

Beverage Requirements (CSDE webpage):

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

Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE webpage):

<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 (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview\\_ct\\_competitive\\_foods\\_regulations.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_ct_competitive_foods_regulations.pdf)

Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/questions\\_answers\\_connecticut\\_statutes\\_school\\_foods\\_beverages.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/questions_answers_connecticut_statutes_school_foods_beverages.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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_requirements_nonhfc.pdf)

Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements\\_competitive\\_foods\\_nonhfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/requirements_competitive_foods_nonhfc.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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_nonhfc.pdf)

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary\\_programs\\_requirements\\_nonhfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_nonhfc.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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/school_store_requirements_nonhfc.pdf)

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending\\_machine\\_requirements\\_nonhfc.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_nonhfc.pdf)

Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE):

## 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/hfc/resources\\_federal\\_state\\_requirements\\_competitive\\_foods.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources_federal_state_requirements_competitive_foods.pdf)

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

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

Summary Chart: 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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_requirements_competitive_foods_nonhfc.pdf)

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

## Resources for Private Schools and RCCIs

Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE webpage):

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

Overview of Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview\\_ct\\_competitive\\_foods\\_regulations.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_ct_competitive_foods_regulations.pdf)

Private Schools and RCCIs (CSDE's Competitive Foods in Schools webpage):

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

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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/cafeteria_requirements_private_rcci.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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/fundraiser_requirements_private_rcci.pdf)

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Culinary Programs in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary\\_programs\\_requirements\\_private\\_rcci.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/culinary_programs_requirements_private_rcci.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](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/school_store_requirements_private_rcci.pdf)

Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending\\_machine\\_requirements\\_private\\_rcci.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/vending_machine_requirements_private_rcci.pdf)

Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources\\_federal\\_state\\_requirements\\_competitive\\_foods.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/hfc/resources_federal_state_requirements_competitive_foods.pdf)

Smart Snacks Calculator (Alliance for a Healthier Generation):

<http://rdp.healthiergeneration.org/calc/calculator/>

## Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

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

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools  
and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary\\_chart\\_requirements\\_competitive\\_foods\\_private\\_rcci.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/summary_chart_requirements_competitive_foods_private_rcci.pdf)

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage and [Beverage Requirements](#) webpage or contact the [school nutrition programs staff](#) 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/compfoods/overview\\_federal\\_state\\_laws\\_competitive\\_foods.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sde/nutrition/compfoods/overview_federal_state_laws_competitive_foods.pdf).

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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