

## Smart Snacks in School Fundraisers

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. The new Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards will help schools to make the healthy choice the easy choice by offering students more of the foods and beverages we should be encouraging – whole grains, fruits and vegetables, leaner protein, lower-fat dairy – while limiting foods with too much sugar, fat and salt.

USDA understands that fundraisers are time-honored traditions that support local school activities, including class trips, athletic programs and the purchase of school supplies. Under the “Smart Snacks in School” nutrition standards, USDA has sought to balance the needs of schools to conduct occasional fundraisers, while still ensuring that students have access to healthier foods and beverages during the school day.

### Highlights of the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards include:

- **Limits to on fundraising and foods sold during the school day.**

The State of N.J. Department of Child Nutrition sets standards for when and what food may be sold in our schools. In N.J., schools are not permitted to sell food or hold fundraisers that involve food during the school day when the school food service is in operation. What that means for our school district is that only on half days when lunches are not being served, can a fundraiser be held involving food. Any food being sold at a fund raiser on a half day must meet the Smart Snack Standards. To see if the food your group wishes to sell is a “Smart Snack”, use the smart snack calculator on the nutrition tab of this website.

- **No limits on fundraisers that meet the new standards.**

There is no limit to fundraisers that sell non-food items in the schools. There are many healthy fundraising options available to schools, including selling books, school spirit merchandise or other non-food items during the school day. Your school’s local wellness committee may have some great tips on how to raise funds and help students make healthy choices at the same time.

- **Schools decide what can be sold at events outside of school hours.**

Smart Snacks in School only applies to foods and beverages sold to students on the school campus during the school day and 30 minutes after the end of the school day. The nutrition standards do not apply to foods and beverages sold at events held after school, off campus, or on weekends, such as school plays or sporting events.