

Nevada's School Wellness Policy

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Introduction

Nevada's School Wellness Policy was based on and developed using the 2014 USDA Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards for all Foods Sold in Schools, Interim Final Rule and the Local School Wellness Policy Implementation, Proposed Rule as required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Local Educational Agencies must develop their local school wellness policies to address all of the federal/state requirements.

These federal standards are subject to change. As changes are made, Nevada's School Wellness Policy will be updated to comply with the federal minimum requirements. As updates are made, Local Educational Agencies must also update their policies to reflect these changes.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the following community members from the areas of industry, education, health, community based organizations, advocacy groups, and government who contributed their expertise in the development of this Policy.

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Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards for all Foods Sold in Schools

The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 directed the USDA to establish science-based nutrition standards for all foods and beverages sold to students in school during the school day. The Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards support efforts by school food service staff, school administrators, teachers, parents, and the school community, who all work together to instill healthy habits in students. The Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards cover all foods sold in schools. This means foods sold during the school day in the following locations, (but not limited to) school stores, vending machines, bake sales, the snack bar, must meet the minimum federal regulations as laid out in the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards. The intent of these standards is not to limit popular snack items, but instead to make healthier snacks available to students. These snacks must meet common-sense standards for fat, saturated fat, sugar, and sodium, while promoting products that have whole grains, low-fat dairy, fruits, vegetables or protein foods as their main ingredients.

Local School Wellness Policy Implementation

The Local School Wellness Policy requires that a committee be formed to address the development, implementation and review of the local school wellness policy. The committee must include representatives from the following groups: parents, students, school food authority representatives, PE teachers, school health professionals, school board, school administrators, and the general public. The policy requires the local educational agency to inform and update the public (including parents, students, and others in the community) about the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy annually. The school wellness policy must include goals for nutrition promotion and nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. Local educational agencies must designate one or more local educational agency official(s) or school official(s), as appropriate, to ensure that each school complies with the local school wellness policy. The local educational agency must inform the Nevada Department of Agriculture the position(s) title and contact information responsible for the oversight of the local school wellness policy at the district and/or school level by September 30th of each school year.

Each Local Educational Agency is required to develop a local school wellness policy based on the following topics:

Advisory Group, Wellness Policy Coordinator, Recordkeeping, School Wellness Policy Goals, Incentives and Rewards, Fundraising, Special Occasions, Revenue, Meal Consumption, Physical Activity, Recess before Lunch, Marketing, Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards, Specific Nutrient Standards for Foods, Beverages, Caffeine, Chewing Gum

Nevada's School Activity & Food Policy

1. Advisory Group

LEAs must establish a diverse team made up of committed school and community stakeholders to assess the LEAs needs and develop a policy that meets the operational realities of the LEA and works toward improved health and wellness outcomes for schoolchildren. In addition, this group must meet twice a year to review and update the local school wellness policy (LSWP), as needs change, goals are met, new information emerges, and the annual review is completed.

Each LEA is required to include a plan that identifies representatives from the following categories to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the LSWP:

Parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public.

2. Wellness Policy Coordinator

Each LEA must establish LSWP leadership, at the district and/or school level, who fully understands the LSWP requirements, who can facilitate the development and implementation of the LSWP, and who has the authority and responsibility to ensure that each school complies with the policy.

The LEA must designate at the district and/or school level, the position(s) responsible for reporting the status of Policy implementation annually. LEAs must inform the Nevada Department of Agriculture the position(s)/title and contact information responsible for the oversight of the LSWP at the district and/or school level by September 30th of each school year.

3. Recordkeeping

LEAs must retain basic records demonstrating compliance with the LSWP and must include the following documentation: Compliance with advisory group requirements, triennial assessment of the LSWP, annual LSWP progress reports for each school under the jurisdiction, demonstrate compliance with public notification which includes:

The web site address for the LSWP and/or how the public can receive/access a copy of the LSWP;

A description of each school's progress in meeting the local school wellness goals;

A summary of each school's events or activities related to LSWP implementation;

The name, position(s)/title, and contact information of the designated local agency official(s) or school official(s) leading/coordinating the school wellness policy team/health advisory council; and

Information on how individuals and the public can get involved with the school wellness policy team.

4. School Wellness Policy Goals

LEAs must select, measure, and report progress for at least one goal from each of the following categories:

Nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities.
(See appendix for a list of potential goals)

5. Incentives & Rewards

LEAs must address the use of food as an incentive or reward, if allowed, it is required that the food awards be in alignment with the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards. LEAs are strongly encouraged to utilize other forms of incentives or rewards that are not food-based.

(See appendix for a list of potential non-food-based rewards)

6. Fundraising

All items sold to students on the school campus during the school day must meet the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards, there are no exemptions.

7. Special Occasions

Each LEA must establish a policy that addresses special occasions or holidays and may allow foods that exceed the established nutrition parameters. Below are some instances to consider:

In observance of state or national holidays; for established religious observances such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza; School Community observances, such as birthday parties; as part of a learning experience related to the reinforcement of established lesson plans in the classroom.

The sale of foods as part of a business enterprise or fundraising activity is not allowed unless the food item(s) meet the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards.

The LEA may want to address the number of occurrences allowed during the school year.

8. Revenue:

LEAs must identify how they will track revenue from the sale of food on the school campus during the school day by one or both of the following methods:

Federal Standard: All revenue from the sale of non-program foods purchased with funds from the non-profit school food service account shall accrue to the non-profit school food service account of the participating school food authority.

Nevada Revised Statute: Each school's wellness policy shall include: Guidelines for revenue accounting, in accordance with NRS 233B.050, or in accordance with established school district rules of practice.

9. Meal Consumption

It is the intent of this policy to allow all students adequate time to eat their meals, therefore, time spent acquiring the meal is not included in the time to consume the meal.

Each LEA shall:

Provide at least 15 minutes for students to consume the breakfast meal (providing the school offers breakfast); and

Provide at least 20 minutes for students to consume the lunch meal.

10. Physical Activity

Schools must provide the opportunity for moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 30 minutes during each regular school day.

11. Recess Before Lunch

Recommend recess before lunch, at the discretion of the LEA.

12. Marketing

Only marketing consistent with Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards is allowed on the school campus. This includes any advertising and other promotions on the school campus during the school day (oral, written, or visual).

LEAs must address all marketing and advertising on school property which does not currently meet the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards as leases, agreements, or contracts are renewed.

13. Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards

All foods and beverages available for sale or given away to students on the school campus during the school day must meet the minimum nutrition standards. These food standards apply to all grade levels (unless otherwise specified).

To be allowable, a food item **must meet all** of the competitive food standards as follows:

Calories:

Snack/Side Item- ≤200 calories per item as served (includes any accompaniments)

Entrée- ≤350 calories per item as served (includes any accompaniments)

AND

Sodium:

Snack/Side Item- ≤230 mg per item as served until June 30, 2016

(≤200 mg after July 1, 2016)

Entrée- ≤480 mg per item as served

AND

Fat:

Total Fat- ≤35% of calories

Saturated Fat- <10% of calories

Trans Fat- 0 g per serving

AND

Sugar:

Total Sugar- <35% by weight

14. Specific Nutrient Standards for Food

In addition to the Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards, food items must meet **one** of the following criteria;

Be a grain product that contains >50% whole grains by weight or have whole grains listed as the first ingredient on the food label; **OR**

Have listed as the first ingredient on the food label, one of the non-grain main food groups: fruit, vegetable, dairy or protein foods; **OR**

Be a combination food that contains at least 1/4 cup fruit and/or vegetable; **OR**

Contain 10% of Daily Value (DV) of Calcium, Potassium, Vitamin D, or Dietary Fiber (Effective through June 30, 2016).

*If water is the first ingredient, the second ingredient must meet one of the above criteria.

15. Beverages

Allowable beverages vary by grade level and address container size. All beverages sold on the school campus during the school day must be non-carbonated. There are no restrictions on the sale of any allowable beverage at any grade level, during the school day anywhere on the school campus.

Beverages for all:

Water– Plain, no size limit

Milk– Unflavored non-fat, unflavored low-fat, or flavored non-fat milk, ≤8 fl. ounces per serving for elementary school, ≤12 fl. ounces per serving for middle school and high school.

Juice– 100% fruit and/or vegetable juice, 100% juice diluted with plain water (no added sweeteners), ≤8 fl. ounces per serving for elementary school, ≤12 fl. ounces per serving for middle school and high school.

Beverage	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Plain water	No Size Limit	No Size Limit	No Size Limit
Low-fat milk, unflavored*	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz
Non-fat milk, unflavored or flavored*	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz
100% Fruit/Vegetable juice**	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz

*Includes nutritionally equivalent milk alternatives, as permitted by NSLP/SBP

**May include 100% juice diluted with plain water & with no added sweeteners

Other Allowable Beverages in **High School Only**:

Calorie-free beverages (≤20 fl. ounces/serving);

Examples: Vitamin Water Zero, Propel Fit Water, Powerade Zero

Other “Calorie-free” Beverages (≤20 fl. ounces/serving) - <5 calories per 8 fl. ounces or ≤10 calories per 20 fl. Ounces;

Examples: Diet Fuze, Pure Leaf Iced Tea

Lower-Calorie Beverages (≤12 fl. ounces/serving) - ≤60 calories per 12 fl. ounces, ≤40 calories per 8 fl. ounces.

Examples: G2, Fuze Slenderize, Diet Snapple, Light Hawaiian Punch

16. Caffeine

All food and beverage in elementary school and middle school must be caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally-occurring caffeine substances (e.g. chocolate milk).

Caffeine is permitted at the high school level, at the discretion of the LEA.

17. Chewing Gum

Sugar-free chewing gum is exempt from all competitive food standards and may be sold to students at the discretion of the LEA.

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Definitions

Combination Food- products that contain two or more components representing two or more of the recommended food groups: fruit, vegetable, dairy, protein or grains.

Competitive Food- all food and beverages other than meals reimbursed available for sale to students on the School Campus during the School Day.

Fundraisers- the sale of items for monetary gain intended for consumption during the school day.

Local Educational Agency- the authority responsible for the administrative control of public or private nonprofit educational institutions within a defined area of the state.

Local School Wellness Policy (LSWP)- the policy that applies to your local school which supports a school environment that promotes sound nutrition and student health, reduces childhood obesity, and provides transparency to the public on school wellness policy content and implementation.

Marketing- advertising and other promotions in schools. Includes oral, written, or graphic statements made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product made by the producer, manufacturer, seller, or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product.

Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity- physical activities done at an intensity that increases children's heart and breathing rates above normal.

Non-program food- food sold in school during the school day at any time or location on the school campus other than reimbursable meals.

Physical Activity- bodily movement produced by the contraction of skeletal muscle that increases a person's energy expenditure above a basal level.

School Campus- all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.

School Day- the period from the midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

School Property- all areas of the school campus including those that are owned or leased by the school and used at any time for school-related activities such as the school building, areas adjacent to the school building, school buses or other vehicles used to transport students, athletic fields or stadiums, or parking lots.

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards- a part of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 that provide science-based nutrition standards for all foods and beverages sold to students in school during the school day.

Link to provide comments or suggestions on Nevada’s School Wellness Policy:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NevadaSWP>

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