

SCVSFSA LOCAL WELLNESS POLICY

NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR FOODS AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

Individual food items sold or served outside the federal reimbursable meal programs should meet local, state, and federal requirements. Sold or served refers to any foods or beverages provided to students on school grounds for a cost or free-of-charge. It does not refer to foods brought from home for individual consumption.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-FOOD RESTRICTIONS

References: *Education Code* sections 49430, 49431, 49431.7; *California Code of Regulations* sections 15575, 15577, 15578; *Code of Federal Regulations* sections 210.11, 220.12

An **elementary school** contains no grade higher than grade 6.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Applies to ALL foods sold to students by any entity.

Sold means the exchange of food for money, coupons, vouchers, or order forms, when any part of the exchange occurs on a school campus.

Compliant foods

Must meet one of the following general food standards:

- Be a fruit, vegetable, dairy, protein, or whole grain item* (or have one of these as the first ingredient), or
- Be a combination food containing at least ¼ cup fruit or vegetable.

AND must meet the following nutrition standards:

- ≤ 35% calories from fat (except nuts, seeds, reduced-fat cheese or part skim mozzarella, dried fruit and nut/seed combo, fruit, non-fried vegetables, seafood), **and**
- < 10% calories from saturated fat (except nuts, seeds, reduced-fat cheese or part skim mozzarella, dried fruit and nut/seed combo), **and**
- ≤ 35% sugar by weight (except fruit**, non-fried vegetables, dried fruit and nut/seed combo), **and**
- < 0.5 grams trans fat per serving (no exceptions), **and**
- ≤ 200 milligrams sodium per item/container (no exceptions), **and**
- ≤ 200 calories per item/container (no exceptions)

Paired foods:

- If exempt food(s) are combined with nonexempt food(s) or added fat/sugar they must meet ALL nutrition standards above.
- If two foods exempt from one or more of the nutrition standards are paired together and sold as a single item, the item must meet for trans fat, sodium, and calories.

* A whole grain item contains:

- The statement "Diets rich in whole grain foods... and low in total fat... may help reduce the risk of heart disease...", **or**
- A whole grain as the first ingredient, **or**
- A combination of whole grain ingredients comprising at least 51% of the total grain weight (manufacturer must verify), **or**
- At least 51% whole grain by weight.

** Dried blueberries cranberries, cherries, tropical fruit, chopped dates, or chopped figs that contain added sugar are exempt from fat and sugar standards. Canned fruit in 100% juice only.

CHECK YOUR DISTRICT'S WELLNESS POLICY FOR STRICTER RULES.

Groups or individuals selling foods/beverages to students must keep their own records as proof of compliance.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-BEVERAGE RESTRICTIONS

References: *Education Code* Section 49431.5, *California Code of Regulations* Section 15576, *Code of Federal Regulations* sections 210.10, 210.11, 220.8, 220.12

An **elementary school** contains no grade higher than grade 6.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Applies to ALL beverages sold to students by any entity.

Sold means the exchange of beverages for money, coupons, vouchers, or order forms, when any part of the exchange occurs on a school campus.

A compliant beverage must be marketed or labeled as a fruit and/or vegetable juice, milk, non-dairy milk, or water AND meet all criteria under that specific category.

Compliant beverages:

1. Fruit or Vegetable juice:
 - a. ≥ 50% juice **and**
 - b. No added sweeteners
 - c. ≤ 8 fl. oz. serving size
2. Milk:
 - a. Cow's or goat's milk, **and**
 - b. 1% (unflavored), nonfat (flavored, unflavored), **and**
 - c. Contains Vitamins A & D, **and**
 - d. ≥ 25% of the calcium Daily Value per 8 fl. oz., **and**
 - e. ≤ 28 grams of total sugar per 8 fl. oz.
 - f. ≤ 8 fl. oz. serving size
3. Non-dairy milk:
 - a. Nutritionally equivalent to milk (see 7 CFR 210.10(d)(3), 220.8(i)(3)), must contain per 8 fl. oz.:
 - ≥ 276 mg calcium
 - ≥ 8 g protein
 - ≥ 500 IU Vit A
 - ≥ 100 IU Vit D
 - ≥ 24 mg magnesium
 - ≥ 222 mg phosphorus
 - ≥ 349 mg potassium
 - ≥ 0.44 mg riboflavin
 - ≥ 1.1 mcg Vit B12, **and**
 - b. ≤ 28 grams of total sugar per 8 fl. oz., **and**
 - c. ≤ 5 grams fat per 8 fl. oz.
 - d. ≤ 8 fl. oz. serving size
4. Water:
 - a. No added sweeteners
 - b. No serving size

All beverages must be caffeine-free (trace amounts are allowable).

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Reference: *California Code of Regulations* Section 15500

Student organization is defined as a group of students that are NOT associated with the curricula or academics of the school or district.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Student organization sales must comply with all food and beverage standards AND all of the following:

1. Only **one food or beverage item** per sale.
2. The food or beverage item must be **pre-approved** by the **governing board** of the school district.
3. The sale must occur **after the last lunch period** has ended.
4. The food or beverage item **cannot be prepared on campus**.
5. Each school is allowed **four sales** per year.
6. The food or beverage item cannot be the same item **sold in the food service program** at that school during the same school day.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL-FOOD RESTRICTIONS

References: *Education Code* sections 49430, 49431.2, 49431.7, *California Code of Regulations* sections 15575, 15577, 15578, *Code of Federal Regulations* sections 210.11, 220.12

A **middle/junior high** contains grades 7 or 8, 7 to 9, 7 to 10.

A **high school** contains any of grades 10 to 12.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Applies to ALL foods sold to students by any entity.

Sold means the exchange of food for money, coupons, vouchers, or order forms, when any part of the exchange occurs on a school campus.

“Snack” foods must meet one of the following general food standards:

- Be a fruit, vegetable, dairy, protein, or whole grain item* (or have one of these as the first ingredient), or
- Be a combination food containing at least ¼ cup fruit or vegetable.

AND must meet the following nutrition standards:

- ≤ 35% calories from fat (except nuts, seeds, reduced-fat cheese or part skim mozzarella, dried fruit and nut/seed combo, fruit, non-fried vegetables, seafood), **and**
- < 10% calories from saturated fat (except nuts, seeds, reduced-fat cheese or part skim mozzarella, dried fruit and nut/seed combo), **and**
- ≤ 35% sugar by weight (except fruit**, non-fried vegetables, dried fruit and nut/seed combo), **and**
- < 0.5 grams trans fat per serving (no exceptions), **and**
- ≤ 200 milligrams sodium per item/container (no exceptions), **and**
- ≤ 200 calories per item/container (no exceptions)

Paired foods:

- If exempt food(s) are combined with nonexempt food(s) or added fat/sugar they must meet ALL nutrition standards above.
- If two foods exempt from one or more of the nutrition standards are paired together and sold as a single item, the item must meet for trans fat, sodium, and calories.

“Entrée” foods must be intended as the main dish and be a:

- Meat/meat alternate and whole grain rich food, **or**
- Meat/meat alternate and fruit or non-fried vegetable, **or**
- Meat/meat alternate alone (cannot be yogurt, cheese, nuts, seeds, or meat snacks = these are considered a “snack” food).

AND

A competitive entrée **sold by District/School Food Service the day of or the day after** it appears on the reimbursable meal program menu must be:

- ≤ 400 calories, **and**
- ≤ 35% calories from fat
- < 0.5 grams trans fat per serving

A competitive entrée **sold by Food Service if NOT on the menu the day of or day after or any other entity (PTA, student organization, etc.)** must meet one of the following general food standards:

- Be a fruit, vegetable, dairy, protein, or whole grain item (or have one of these as the first ingredient), **or**
- Be a combination food containing at least ¼ cup fruit or vegetable

AND meet the following nutrition standards:

- ≤ 35% calories from fat, **and**
- < 10% calories from saturated fat, **and**
- ≤ 35% sugar by weight, **and**
- < 0.5 grams trans fat per serving, **and**
- ≤ 480 milligrams sodium, **and**
- ≤ 350 calories

* A whole grain item contains:

- The statement “Diets rich in whole grain foods... and low in total fat... may help reduce the risk of heart disease...” **or**
- A whole grain as the first ingredient, **or**
- A combination of whole grain ingredients comprising at least 51% of the total grain weight (manufacturer must verify), **or**
- At least 51% whole grain by weight.

** Dried blueberries cranberries, cherries, tropical fruit, chopped dates, or chopped figs that contain added sugar are exempt from fat and sugar standards. Canned fruit in 100% juice only.

CHECK YOUR DISTRICT’S WELLNESS POLICY FOR STRICTER RULES.

Groups or individuals selling foods/beverages to students must keep their own records as proof of compliance.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL-BEVERAGE RESTRICTIONS

References: *Education Code* Section 49431.5, *California Code of Regulations* Section 15576, *Code of Federal Regulations* sections 210.10, 210.11, 220.8, 220.12

A **middle/junior high** contains grades 7 or 8, 7 to 9, 7 to 10.

A **high school** contains any of grades 10 to 12.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Applies to ALL beverages sold to students by any entity.

Sold means the exchange of beverages for money, coupons, vouchers, or order forms, when any part of the exchange occurs on a school campus.

A compliant beverage must be marketed or labeled as a fruit and/or vegetable juice, milk, non-dairy milk, water, electrolyte replacement beverage/sports drink, or flavored water AND meet all criteria under that specific category.

Compliant beverages:

1. Fruit or Vegetable juice:
 - a. ≥ 50% juice **and**
 - b. No added sweeteners
 - c. ≤ 12 fl. oz. serving size
2. Milk:
 - a. Cow's or goat's milk, **and**
 - b. 1% (unflavored), nonfat (flavored, unflavored), **and**
 - c. Contains Vitamins A & D, **and**
 - d. ≥ 25% of the calcium Daily Value per 8 fl. oz., **and**
 - e. ≤ 28 grams of total sugar per 8 fl. oz.
 - f. ≤ 12 fl. oz. serving size
3. Non-dairy milk:
 - a. Nutritionally equivalent to milk (see 7 *CFR* 210.10(d)(3), 220.8(i)(3)), **and**
 - b. ≤ 28 grams of total sugar per 8 fl. oz., **and**
 - c. ≤ 5 grams fat per 8 fl. oz.
 - d. ≤ 12 fl. oz. serving size
4. Water:
 - a. No added sweeteners
 - b. No serving size limit
5. Electrolyte Replacement Beverages (**HIGH SCHOOLS ONLY**)
 - a. Must be either ≤ 5 calories/8 fl. oz. (no calorie) OR ≤ 40 calories/8 fl. oz. (low calorie)
 - b. Water as first ingredient
 - c. ≤ 16.8 grams added sweetener/8 fl. oz.
 - d. 10-150 mg sodium/8 fl. oz.
 - e. 10-90 mg potassium/8 fl. oz.
 - f. No added caffeine
 - g. ≤ 20 fl. oz. serving size (no calorie) OR ≤ 12 fl. oz. serving size (low calorie)
6. Flavored Water (**HIGH SCHOOLS ONLY**)
 - a. Must be either ≤ 5 calories/8 fl. oz. (no calorie) OR ≤ 40 calories/8 fl. oz. (low calorie)
 - b. No added sweetener
 - c. No added caffeine
 - d. ≤ 20 fl. oz. serving size (no calorie) OR ≤ 12 fl. oz. serving size (low calorie)

All beverages must be caffeine-free (trace amounts are allowable).

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL-STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Reference: *California Code of Regulations* Section 15501

Student organization is defined as a group of students that are NOT associated with the curricula or academics of the school or district.

Effective from midnight to one-half hour after the end of the official school day.

Student organization sales must comply with all food and beverage standards **AND all** of the following:

1. Up to **three categories** of foods or beverages *may* be sold each day (e.g., chips, sandwiches, juices, etc.).
2. Food or beverage item(s) must be **pre-approved** by the governing board of the school district.
3. Only **one student organization** is allowed to sell each day.
4. Food(s) or beverage(s) **cannot** be **prepared on campus**.
5. The food or beverage categories sold **cannot** be the same as the categories **sold in the food service program** at that school during the same school day.
6. In addition to one student organization sale each day, any and **all student organizations** may sell on the **same four designated days** per year. School administration may set these dates.

Revised 2023

Schools are encouraged to use whole, fresh, unprocessed foods and ingredients whenever possible.

Schools are encouraged to offer fresh fruits and vegetables whenever possible.

Schools are encouraged to use foods low in sodium whenever possible.

Ingredients of foods sold or served at school should be listed on the food label or otherwise identified so students with food allergies are protected from accidental exposure.

Food/beverage marketing in schools

School-based marketing will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion. As such, schools will limit food and beverage marketing to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards for meals or for foods and beverages sold individually (above).¹

Eliminate the marketing and advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages. Any foods or beverages that do not meet the above criteria should not be promoted in any way, e.g., through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies.

Marketing activities that promote healthful behaviors (and are therefore allowable) include: vending machine covers promoting water; pricing structures that promote healthy options in a la carte lines or vending machines; and sales of fruit for fundraisers.

Fundraising

Encourage the use of non-food items for fundraising. If food items are used, strive to meet the above criteria.

Rewards

Strive to use non-food items as rewards. Food should not be used as a reward or punishment for individual student behaviors.

Celebrations

Encourage non-food celebrations. Schools should limit celebrations that involve food during the school day to no more than one party per class per month. Food and beverages for class parties (including pizza parties and birthday celebrations) should strive to meet the nutrition standards for foods and beverages sold individually (as described above). If the celebration is not part of the National School Lunch Program, the celebration should occur after the last lunch period.

School-sponsored events

Offer and promote healthy food and beverage products, when possible, at school-sponsored events.

¹ Advertising of low-nutrition foods and beverages is permitted in supplementary classroom and library materials, such as newspapers, magazines, the Internet, and similar media, when such materials are used in a class lesson or activity, or as a research tool.

NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR CHILD NUTRITION REIMBURSABLE MEAL PROGRAMS

Healthy School Meals and Snacks

All meals

- Except in extraordinary circumstances, all schools in the district will participate in all available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), After school Snack Program (ASP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). All schools with a pre-school will participate in NSLP, SBP or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- The school district will seek to maximize federal and state nutrition funding
- Schools with 75 percent or more students eligible for free and reduced price school meals that do not implement Provision 2 or 3, will explain their rationale annually at a school board meeting
- Schools that do not operate one or more federal food program(s) will explain the deficiency annually at a school board meeting
- The CAO and the Agency nutrition committee (each member district will have representation) will revisit provisions dealing with school meals and report to the school board to ensure that school meals meet or exceed all federal, state and local laws, standards and requirements and are in accordance with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The evaluation and reviews should take place soon upon completion of the School Meals Initiative and updated Guidelines and no less often than once every five years.

Meals served through the Child Nutrition Programs will:

- Be appealing and attractive to children of various ages and diverse backgrounds
- Be served in clean and pleasant settings
- Meet or exceed nutrition requirements established by local, state, and federal statutes and regulations
- Offer fresh fruit and vegetables daily in each meal, with a variety of choices that, when practical, should be from local sources. To the extent possible, schools will offer at least two non-fried vegetable and two fruit options each day and will offer five different fruits and five different vegetables over the course of a week
- Include only low-fat (one percent) and fat-free milk
- Provide at least 51% whole grains **in at least 80%** of all grains served
- Strive to include only food items, except for fruits and vegetables, that contain no more than 35 percent of their weight in sugar
- Reduce food items that contain trans fatty acids. (When trans fatty acid levels are readily available on the food label, then plans to reduce amounts of trans fatty acids to trace amounts)

- Meet target levels for sodium (**Level 1A effective July 1,2023**):

Sodium

Breakfast	≤540 mg
Lunch	≤1110 mg

Students and parents should be engaged in selecting foods to be sold and served, through taste testing, community meetings, and surveys. Information concerning the nutritional content of all school meals and snacks should be shared with students and parents. Such information is available on the Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency website www.scvschoolnutrition.org.

Schools will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals². Toward this end, schools may utilize electronic identification and payment systems; provide meals at no charge to all children, regardless of income; promote the availability of school meals to all students; and/or use nontraditional methods for serving school meals, such as “grab-and-go” or classroom breakfast.

Students will be discouraged from sharing food and beverages, given concerns about allergies and special diets.

Breakfast

- Schools will encourage participation by implementing, wherever feasible, classroom breakfast, grab-and-go, second chance breakfast, breakfast on the bus, breakfast during morning break or recess, and other options
- Schools will, to the extent possible, arrange bus and bell schedules and take other appropriate steps to encourage participation. Students will have at least 10 minutes to eat after sitting down
- Schools will promote the importance of healthy breakfast and the SBP to students and families.

Lunch

- Students will have 20 minutes to eat after sitting down
- The healthiest lunch choices, such as salads and fresh fruit, will be prominently displayed in cafeterias to attract students
- Lunch will be served at appropriate intervals from other meals
- Students will be allowed to eat when engaged in scheduled mealtime activities
- There should be access to hand washing before and after eating.

After school Snack Program

- After school snack programs will incorporate, or develop a plan to incorporate, fresh fruit and whole grain snacks daily.

² It is against the law to make others in the cafeteria aware of the eligibility status of children for free, reduced-price, or "paid" meals.

Summer Food Service Program

- Schools with 50 percent or more students eligible for free and reduced-price meals will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program or the Seamless Summer Waiver Option. If the school does not participate in these programs, then they should assure that some other neighborhood agency sponsors SFSP during summer school.
- After summer school, schools will refer children to other SFSP sites until school resumes.

Other concerns

- The school district will provide continuing professional development for all school nutrition professionals. Staff development will include training and/or certification for food service personnel at their various levels of responsibility.

Each of our member school districts has additional guidelines for specific goals regarding nutrition education, physical activity, staff development, and assessment of compliance/progress.

Stakeholders are provided with the opportunity to participate in the development, implementation, periodic review, and update of their local school wellness policies.