

# USDA Guidelines for School Food Fundraisers, Vending Machines & School Stores

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. These standards became what is now Smart Snacks in School. The Federal standards also directed State Agency's to provide a special exemption for infrequent fundraisers that do not meet the nutrition standards.

The Utah State Office of Education board addressed competitive foods and services in schools by enacting that schools may hold specifically exempted fundraisers no more than three times per year per site, with each fundraiser lasting no longer than five consecutive school days. Exempted fundraisers may not be held within the food service area during meal service.

## **What this means for School Food Fundraisers & School Stores:**

1. Fundraisers may sell items that meet the Smart Snack standards with no limitations.
2. Fundraisers that sell items that do not meet the Smart Snack standards must:
  - Apply for a fundraiser exemption by filling out the exempted food fundraiser form. (Form located under FAQ page on the Nutrition Services website~ Smart Snacks)
  - Submit the exemption form to the designated Administrator at each school for approval, audits and tracking.
  - Each school may host three exempted fundraisers per year for no longer than five consecutive school days each.
  - Exempted fundraisers may not be held within the meal service area during breakfast or lunch meal service. Kitchens should be given a minimum of a weeks' notice if school meals will be impacted in any way.

## **What this means for Vending Machines:**

1. Vending Machines that are operating during school hours must contain food items that meet the Smart Snack Standards.

## **What this means for CTE Programs Specifically:**

1. Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs may make written requests for fundraisers in addition to the three exempted fundraisers. The exemption may be approved for up to ten school days per school quarter. Exempted fundraisers may not be held within the food service area during meal service. Requests should be sent to Kathleen Maag at USBE ([Kathleen.maag@schools.utah.gov](mailto:Kathleen.maag@schools.utah.gov) Fax: 801-538-7883). (Form located under FAQ page on the Nutrition Services website~ Smart Snacks)