

# OSPI CNS School Meal Programs Reference Sheet

## Smart Snacks

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participating in school meal program must meet minimum requirements for all foods and beverages sold in school (also known as Smart Snacks in School) to increase the consumption of healthful foods during the school day and support a healthy school nutrition environment.

## Requirements

- All foods and beverages **sold** on the school campus (excluding reimbursable meals) during the school day must meet Smart Snack guidelines.
  - School Campus: All areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.
  - School Day: Midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
- Sugar-free chewing gum is exempt from all Smart Snack standards.
- Washington does not allow any exemptions for fundraisers.
  - All food and beverage fundraisers must meet the Smart Snack Standards.

## Reference

- [Smart Snacks Final Rule](#)
- [SP23-2014v3](#)
- [SP 19-2024 Initial Implementation CNP Meal Pattern](#)

## Resource

- [Healthier Next Generation Smart Snack Calculator](#)

## Acronym Reference

- CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
- CNS – Child Nutrition Services
- LEA – Local Education Agency
- NSLP – National School Lunch Program
- OSPI - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- USDA - United States Department of Agriculture



Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

# Smart Snacks Reference Sheet—Foods

The Smart Snacks in School standards require all foods sold on “school campus” during the “school day” to meet standards for fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sugar, and sodium while promoting products that have whole grains, low fat dairy, fruits, vegetables or protein foods as their main ingredient.

Follow the steps to determine if a food item meets the Smart Snack standards.

## Step 1: Does the item meet one of the following exemptions?

- **Fresh fruits and vegetables** (with no added ingredients except water).
- **Canned and frozen fruit** (with no added ingredients except water or are packed in 100% juice, extra light or light syrup).
- **Canned vegetables** (low sodium and no-salt added allowed, no added fat).
- **NSLP/SBP entrée items\* sold ala carte on day of OR day after service in NSLP/SBP**  
\*entrée item= intended as the main dish. A combination meat/meat alternate and whole grain-rich and/or enriched grain food; a combination fruit/vegetable and meat/meat alternate food; a meat/meat alternate food alone (with the exception of meat snacks, i.e., beef jerky), yogurt, cheese, seeds and nuts, or meat snacks); a whole grain-rich and/or enriched grain Breakfast entrée.

Yes



Item meets Smart Snack standards—**no need to evaluate further**

No



**Proceed to Step 2**

## Step 2: Does the item meet ONE of the General Standards?

Standard	Notes
• <b>Whole grain-rich product</b>	Must be 50% or more whole grain by weight or first ingredient must be a whole grain (OK if water is listed first).
• <b>First ingredient is a fruit/vegetable/dairy product or protein food</b>	Dried/dehydrated fruits or vegetables meets the general standards Exception: dehydrated or concentrated fruit juice or concentrated fruit puree is considered added sugar and does not meet the general standard.
• <b>Combination food that contains at least 1/4 cup of fruit and/or vegetable</b>	Combination food: Food that contains two or more components representing two or more of the food groups: fruit, vegetable, dairy, protein or grains. Two items packaged together can be considered a combination food.

Yes



**Proceed to Step 3**

No



Item does **not** meet Smart Snack standards

Step 3: Does the item meet ALL of the Nutrient Standards?			
Exemptions			
	<b>Entrée</b>	<b>Snack</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entrée= Intended as a main dish. A combination meat/meat alternate and whole grain-rich and/or enriched grain food; a combination fruit/vegetable and meat/meat alternate food; a meat/meat alternate food alone (with the exception of meat snacks, i.e., beef jerky), yogurt, cheese, seeds and nuts, or meat snacks); a whole grain-rich and/or enriched grain Breakfast entrée.</li> </ul>
<b>Calories</b>	≤ 350	≤ 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No exemptions</li> </ul>
<b>Sodium</b>	≤ 480	≤ 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No exemptions</li> </ul>
<b>Total Fat</b> ≤ 35% of calories			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced fat cheese (includes part-skim mozzarella)</li> <li>Nuts, seeds and nut/seed butters</li> <li>Items consisting of only dried fruit with nuts/seeds (no added nutritive sweeteners or fats)</li> <li>Seafood (no added fat)</li> <li>Whole Eggs (no added fat)</li> <li>Bean Dip, Hummus &amp; any other bean dip made from a variety of beans, peas or lentils</li> </ul>
<b>Saturated Fat</b> < 10% of calories			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced fat cheese (includes part-skim mozzarella)</li> <li>Nuts, seeds and nut/seed butters</li> <li>Whole eggs (no added fat)</li> <li>Items consisting of only dried fruit with nuts/seeds (no added nutritive sweeteners or fats)</li> </ul>
<b>Sugar</b> ≤ 35% (of weight from total sugars)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dried whole fruits or vegetables and dehydrated fruits or vegetables (with no added nutritive sweeteners)</li> <li>Dried whole fruits or vegetables and dehydrated fruits or vegetables with nutritive sweeteners that are required for processing and/or palatability (i.e. cranberries or tart cherries)</li> <li>Items consisting of only dried fruit with nuts/seeds (no added nutritive sweeteners or fats)</li> </ul>



Item meets Smart Snack standards



Item does **not** meet Smart Snack standards

#### To calculate the percentage calories from fat

(choose either method – each method may provide slightly different results)

$$\frac{\text{calories from fat}}{\text{total calories}} \times 100$$

#### Using the Grams of fat

$$\frac{\text{grams of fat} \times 9}{\text{total calories}} \times 100$$

#### To calculate the percentage of calories from Saturated Fat

$$\frac{\text{grams saturated of fat} \times 9}{\text{total calories}} \times 100$$

#### To calculate the percent of sugar by weight

$$\frac{\text{grams of sugar}}{\text{total weight of food in grams}} \times 100$$

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1 oz (28g) Serving Per Container 1	
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 140	Calories from Fat 50
% Daily Values*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 5g	<b>8%</b>
Saturated Fat 0.5g	<b>3%</b>
Trans Fat 0g	
<b>Sodium</b> 200mg	<b>8%</b>
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 18g	<b>6%</b>
Dietary Fiber 3g	<b>12%</b>
Sugars 2g	
<b>Protein</b> 3g	<b>6%</b>
*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.	

# Smart Snacks Reference Sheet—Beverages

Beverage Standards			
Beverages	Elementary School*	Middle School*	High School**
<b>Water</b> (Plain or plain carbonated)	No Size limit	No Size Limit	No size limit
<b>Fat-Free or Low-Fat (1% milk fat or less) Milk</b> (flavored or unflavored)	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz
<b>100% fruit/vegetable juice</b>	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz
<b>100% fruit/vegetable juice diluted with water</b> (with or without carbonation, no added sweeteners)	≤ 8 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz	≤ 12 fl oz
<b>Other flavored and/or carbonated beverages</b> (containing ≤ 5 kcal/8 oz or ≤ 10 kcal/20 Oz)	Not allowed	Not allowed	≤ 20 fl oz
<b>Other flavored and/or carbonated beverages</b> (containing ≤ 40 kcal/8 oz or ≤ 60 kcal/12 oz)	Not allowed	Not allowed	≤ 12 fl oz
*Must be caffeine free (except trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances) **May contain caffeine			

## Coffee and Coffee Drinks

- **Plain Coffee or Espresso or Tea is considered an allowable beverage**
- **Coffee/Tea with accompaniments:**
  - allowed but must be sold together and meet calorie standards or “other flavored beverages”  
 $\leq .5 \text{ kcal/oz (20 or less)}$  **OR**  $\leq 5 \text{ KCAL/OZ (12 oz or less)}$
- **Coffee “drink”**
  1. Allowed when made from two allowable beverages/in allowed amounts (nothing added)
    - i.e. espresso + steamed nonfat flavored/unflavored milk (total size  $\leq 12 \text{ fl oz}$ )
    - i.e. espresso + steamed low fat unflavored milk (total size  $\leq 12 \text{ fl oz}$ )
    - i.e. espresso + steamed nonfat flavored milk + ice (total size  $\leq 12 \text{ fl oz}$ )
  2. When made with anything other than or in addition to allowable beverages must meet “other flavored beverages” calorie standards of  $\leq 5 \text{ kcal/oz (12 oz or less)}$   
Calories from allowed beverages are NOT included / Final beverage size may NOT exceed 12 fl oz
    - i.e. 1 oz espresso + 1 oz sugar free syrup + 10 oz of nonfat milk (total size  $\leq 12 \text{ fl oz}$ )
    - i.e. 1 oz espresso + 1 oz sugar free syrup + 6 oz of nonfat milk + 4 oz crushed ice (total size  $\leq 12 \text{ fl oz}$ )

## Smoothies

- **Smoothies as a Food**
  1. As an Entrée: if it contains a M/MA + fruit or vegetable; the first ingredients is one of the main food group categories and it meets nutrient standards for an entrée
    - i.e. yogurt + fruit + milk
  2. As a Snack: if it contains no meat/meat alternate; the first ingredient is one of the main food group categories and it meets nutrient standards for a snack
    - i.e. fruit + milk
- **Smoothies as a Beverage**
  1. Allowed when made from two allowable beverages and when limited in portion size
    - i.e. 100% juice + nonfat or low fat (1% milkfat or less) unflavored or flavored milk (total size  $\leq 8 \text{ fl oz grade school/ } 12 \text{ fl oz middle/high school}$ )
    - i.e. 100% juice + nonfat unflavored milk + ice (total size  $\leq 8 \text{ fl oz grade school/ } 12 \text{ fl oz middle/high school}$ )
  2. When made with anything other than or in addition to allowable juice/milk must meet “other flavored beverage” calorie standards of  $\leq 5 \text{ kcal/oz (12 oz or less)}$   
Calories from allowed beverages are NOT included / Final beverage size may NOT exceed 12 fl oz