SP 36-2014: Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards and Exempt
The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance regarding State agency responsibilities to establish limitations on the frequency of specially exempted fundraisers in schools. Section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 USC 1779, as amended by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), requires that all food sold outside of the school meal programs, on the school campus and at any time during the school day must meet the nutrition standards set forth in the interim final rule titled “National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010”. This interim final rule, also known as the “Smart Snacks” rule, was published on June 28, 2013 and is effective on July 1, 2014. As USDA continues to move forward with implementation of Smart Snacks, State agencies are reminded to advise their respective schools that these standards will take effect this coming school year. Information on implementation and guidance on Smart Snacks may be found at the Food and Nutrition Service website at http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/smart-snacks-school. IMPORTANT: Iowa’s fundraiser limit is zero and there are no exemptions allowed. This is keeping with the current practice under the Healthy Kids Act Iowa implemented in 2009.

USDA has provided funding to State agencies to competitively award equipment assistance grants to eligible school food authorities (SFA) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). These funds will allow SFAs to purchase equipment to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal patterns, with emphasis on more fruits and vegetables in school meals, improve food safety, and expand access. The Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services will email eligible SFAs the Equipment Assistance Grant application later this year or early in 2015.

SP 40-2014: Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards and Culinary Education Programs
The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance regarding the treatment of culinary education programs that operate in schools participating in the federal school meal program. Review the post USDA memo for details.

SP 41-2014: Clarification of the Policy on Food Consumption Outside of Foodservice Area, and the Whole Grain-Rich Requirement
This memorandum is intended to clarify two issues regarding meals offered under National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). First, the memorandum clarifies the policy of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) regarding student consumption of certain lunch or breakfast items outside of the foodservice area and meal period. Second, it clarifies the requirement to offer whole grain-rich products in the NSLP and SBP.

SP 42-CACFP11-SFSP17: Sharing Aggregate Data to Expand Program Access and Services in Child Nutrition Programs
The purpose of this memorandum is to remind State agencies, school food authorities (SFAs), schools, and sponsoring organizations operating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the
Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) about data sharing requirements and opportunities. This memorandum also includes frequently asked questions regarding data sharing. The attached Questions & Answers (QAs) provide guidance on the meal patterns and dietary specifications for meals offered under the School Breakfast Program (SBP). The meal requirements for the SBP were established by the final rule *Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs* (7 CFR 2494, January 13, 2011), which was issued in conformance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.


Full implementation of the new school meal requirements culminates in School Year (SY) 2014-2015. The SBP meal requirements are being phased-in over multiple years; this memorandum addresses the requirements that will become effective July 1, 2014 (SY 2014-2015). For information on the breakfast requirements that were implemented in SY 2013-2014, please refer to Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) memorandum SP-28-2013 (v. 2).