How School Nutrition Can Work with School Groups for Smart Snacks Compliance

Implementation of the Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards at the local level is reviewed during the School Nutrition Administrative Review that currently takes place every 3 years.

Communication with school staff and school groups is key to successful compliance. It is the role of school nutrition to ensure that everyone that sells foods and beverages to students during the school day is aware of the Smart Snacks standards and provides assistance in meeting the standards.

Smart Snacks Resources to Share

- Overview of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards
- Smart Snacks Presentation Slides and Handouts
- Smart Snacks Product List – These products have been determined to meet the standards. Not all allowable products are listed, but it’s a great place to start!
- Smarts Snacks Product Calculator – Enter information from the food or beverage nutrition fact label and ingredient list into the calculator to determine if it’s compliant.
- Super Tracker – If a food item is made from scratch and does not have a nutrition label, the MyRecipe feature in Super Tracker can calculate the nutrition information. In addition, your School Nutrition program may have nutrient analysis software.

Smart Snacks Order Form

While working with groups to sell allowable products, you may consider a Smart Snacks ordering process. The Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services developed a Sample Order Form that provides examples of food and beverage items. It can be customized with deadlines, contacts, items available, and prices.

The sample order form includes Iowa Team Nutrition Smart Snacks Recipes. Examples of purchased items are from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation Product List. The Alliance list include product names, vendor names, and product SKUs.

School nutrition may purchase foods and beverages for school groups if all costs, including any non-food costs such as labor and storage are covered in the price charged to the group. School nutrition is encouraged to develop a written plan and policy that documents these non-food expenses and a % service fee that covers these expenses.

Any profit that the group then makes from the sales can be kept by the group. Example: If the cost associated with purchasing, preparing, storing cookies is $0.30/cookie than, school nutrition must recoup at least $0.30/cookie from the school group. The group may then sell each cookie for $1 and keep the $0.70 profit per cookie. USDA MEMO SP 20-2016.