

ARIZONA Healthy Schools Act

WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

The Arizona Healthy Schools Act (A.R.S. §15-242.01) supports student health by prohibiting public schools that participate in federally funded meal programs from **serving, selling, or allowing third parties to sell** certain foods and beverages during the normal school day when they contain specific prohibited ingredients.



EFFECTIVE:
2026-2027
SCHOOL YEAR

WHERE & WHEN DOES IT APPLY?

- During the normal school day
- On school campus
- Applies to ALL foods and beverages that are:
 - ✓ Served by the school
 - ✓ Sold by the school
 - ✓ Sold by outside vendors
 - ✓ Sold in vending machines
 - ✓ Sold in school stores, snack bars or a la carte lines
 - ✓ Sold during fundraisers
 - ✓ Provided during classroom parties, celebrations, rewards, incentives, and classroom snacks



PROHIBITED INGREDIENTS

A food may **NOT** be served or sold if it contains **ONE OR MORE** of the following:

- 1 Potassium Bromate
- 2 Propylparaben
- 3 Titanium Dioxide
- 4 Brominated Vegetable Oil (BVO)
- 5 Yellow Dye 5
- 6 Yellow Dye 6
- 7 Blue Dye 1
- 8 Blue Dye 2
- 9 Green Dye 3
- 10 Red Dye 3
- 11 Red Dye 40



IMPORTANT:

This law does **NOT** ban all processed foods. It only prohibits foods with the ingredients listed above.

SMART SNACKS STILL APPLY

All foods and beverages sold on campus during the school day must also meet USDA Smart Snacks standards.

A product must satisfy **BOTH**:

- ✓ USDA Smart Snacks Standards
- ✓ Arizona Healthy Schools Act

SMART SNACKS
IN SCHOOL ✓



STORE-BOUGHT ITEMS ONLY FOR SHARED FOOD

All snacks, treats, and food items brought in for classroom celebrations, parties, or to share with students must be commercially prepared and in the original, unopened packaging.

HOMEMADE ITEMS ARE NOT PERMITTED for shared classroom food since we cannot verify ingredients or determine compliance with the Arizona Healthy Schools Act and Smart Snacks requirements.

EXAMPLES: WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED

- ✗ Teacher selling chips during lunch
- ✗ PTO selling candy or soda
- ✗ Classroom parties with cupcakes containing prohibited ingredients
- ✗ Teacher buying pizza for the class
- ✗ Rewards or incentives with non-compliant foods



These items may also be subject to district policies and approval requirements.

EXAMPLES: OPTIONS THAT MAY COMPLY*

These are examples **ONLY**. Always check labels and ingredients.

- ✓ Plain popcorn
- ✓ Air-popped popcorn
- ✓ Baked chips (plain or low-sodium)
- ✓ Cheese sticks
- ✓ Fresh fruits
- ✓ Applesauce (unsweetened)
- ✓ Yogurt (plain or low sugar)
- ✓ Whole grain crackers
- ✓ 100% fruit snacks
- ✓ Trail mix (without prohibited ingredients)
- ✓ Water, flavored water, or milk



*Must also meet USDA Smart Snacks standards when sold during the school day.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR DISTRICT?



We review all products sold or served.

Every food item is checked for prohibited ingredients and Smart Snacks compliance.



We work with our vendors.

We require compliance letters and ingredient information for all products.



We follow approval processes.

Fundraisers, classroom celebrations, and catering must be reviewed and approved before food is sold or provided.



We educate and support.

We provide training and resources for staff, parents, vendors, and students.



We keep students healthy.

Together, we create a school environment that supports healthy choices and learning success!

NEED QUESTIONS ANSWERED?

Please contact the Child Nutrition Department or your school administrator.

Thank you! ♥

For partnering with us to support the health and well-being of our students!



QUICK TIPS FOR STAFF

- ✓ Check ingredient labels when unsure.
- ✓ Do not substitute products without approval.
- ✓ Report any concerns to your administrator or Child Nutrition.
- ✓ When in doubt, ask!



TOGETHER, WE CAN
MAKE HEALTHY
THE EASY CHOICE!

This flyer is provided for informational purposes and does not replace federal, state, or district policies. For complete details, visit azed.gov/hns or contact your district's Child Nutrition Department.