

COMPLIANCE FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Food and drink vending restrictions begin 30 minutes before the start of the school day and remain in place until 30 minutes after the school day ends.
- Except for milk and water, no beverage can exceed 16 ounces.
- Only beverages allowed to be sold during restricted hours include:
 - 100% vegetable or fruit juices containing no natural or artificial sweeteners
 - Unsweetened flavored or unflavored drinking water
 - Low-fat or skim, flavored or unflavored milk or non-dairy milk
- Snacks are limited. Except for unsweetened or uncoated seeds or nuts, food items meeting any of the below criteria can not be sold during restricted hours:
 - Foods considered of minimal nutritional value as defined in Section 220.2 of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulation
 - Foods that contain:
 - More than 150 calories per serving
 - More than 35% of calories from fat
 - More than 30 grams of sugar per serving
 - Fresh pastries

COMPLIANCE FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

- Vending sales are allowed during the last 10 minutes of lunch; during this time the below restrictions are applicable.
- At least 50% of the beverages offered must be less than 16 oz and must be comprised of:
 - 100% vegetable or fruit juices containing no natural or artificial sweeteners
 - Unsweetened flavored or unflavored drinking water
 - Low-fat or skim flavored or unflavored milk or non-dairy milk
- At least 50% of the snacks available must meet a certain criterion. Except of unsweetened or uncoated seeds or nuts, half of the food items sold cannot:
 - Fall below minimal nutritional value as defined in Section 220.2 of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulation
 - Contain:
 - More than 150 calories per serving
 - More than 35% of calories from fat
 - More than 30 grams of sugar per serving
 - Fresh pastries



HEALTHY VENDING ACT

(ACT 331)

Nationwide, childhood obesity rates are on the rise. Louisiana has one of the highest obesity rates in the nation—an important contributing factor is the over-consumption of snack foods and soft drinks.

Louisiana legislators recently passed a Healthy Vending Act that limits the sale of certain food and beverages in public elementary and secondary school vending machines. The Act also heavily restricts the sale of vending machine products in public high schools.

“Louisiana has enacted one of the most stringent public school vending policies in the nation. This legislation marks significant progress in addressing the problem of overweight and obese students.”

– Dr. Frederick P. Cerise, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY SCHOOL?

For elementary or secondary schools,

Act 331 limits the times during the day when food and drink vending machines can be accessed by students. It also requires that all food and drinks sold meet specific nutritional guidelines and not exceed a certain size or quantity. **For high schools,** guidelines are less strict, but there are specific times when students are allowed to buy items from school vending machines and considerations that must be adhered to.



HOW DOES THIS IMPACT SCHOOL

FOOD PROGRAMS?

The restrictions are not directed toward any food or drink served during state provided breakfast or lunch programs. Act 331 is strictly for items sold in school vending machines, in school stores and as part of on-campus fundraisers.

WHAT IF MY SCHOOL SELLS ITEMS FOR FUNDRAISING, LIKE CHOCOLATE BARS?

Act 331 is intended for the sale and purchase of items on school property only. It does not prohibit or limit the sale or distribution of any food or beverage for fundraising purposes by students, teachers or groups **off campus.**

MY SCHOOL NEEDS HELP WITH COMPLIANCE. IS THERE A LIST OF AUTHORIZED PRODUCTS THAT CAN BE SOLD IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH ACT 331?

Yes. The State of Louisiana, with the guidance of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center (PBRC), has developed a thorough list of beverages and foods that may be sold on public elementary, secondary and high school grounds. To get a list of acceptable vending items, or to obtain an assessment of your school's current vending machine options, visit the PBRC website at: http://www.pbrc.edu/Division_of_Education/Tools/School_Vending.asp.

If your vending machine contains items that do not appear on this list, send descriptive and serving size information along with the Nutrition Facts label to Pennington Biomedical Research Center. They will analyze it and add the item to the list if it meets nutritional criteria.

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