

Submitting Food and Beverage Products for Approval

Connecticut's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) reviews foods and beverages for compliance with the state nutrition standards for foods and beverages in schools. Foods that meet the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#), and beverages that meet the [state beverage requirements](#) of Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Smart Snacks standards, will be added to the CSDE's [List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#) webpage.

To submit a food or beverage product to the CSDE for review, provide a PDF of the actual product package, artwork for the product package, or a product specification sheet. The CSDE prefers that the submission includes the **actual product packaging** because it contains the most complete and accurate information. The product submission must include the following:

1. **Name of manufacturer**, exactly as it appears on the product label.
2. **Name of product**, exactly as it appears on the product label.
3. **Flavor or variety** of product, exactly as it appears on the product label.
4. **Nutrition facts label**, which must include the following nutrients: calories, total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sugars, sodium, and fiber.
5. **List of ingredients**, which *must be in a format that can be electronically copied*.
6. **Actual package size**, which must list both individual serving size and actual package size. For frozen desserts, the serving size must include both **volume** (fluid ounces) and **weight** (ounces or grams) of one serving of the product.
7. **UPC code** for the **individual package** (12-digit code, i.e., 0-00000-00000-0) and **case** (14-digit code, i.e., 000-00000-00000-0) or the manufacturer product code if the product does not have a UPC code.
8. **List of distributors** that sell the products to schools in Connecticut. The CSDE's [Contact Information for Vendors](#) provides schools with contact information for manufacturers, brokers, and distributors that sell foods and beverages included on the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages webpage. For any vendor not already listed, please provide the following contact information:
 - contact name
 - contact title
 - company name
 - company address (street, city, zip code)
 - phone
 - fax
 - e-mail
 - website (if available)

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Please submit all required information via e-mail to susan.fiore@ct.gov. The CSDE will review the products and you will be notified of their status via e-mail. The review process is typically completed within 7-10 days.

Resources

Beverage Requirements (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Beverage-Requirements>

Contact Information for Vendors (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/FBlist/VendorContact.pdf>

Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Connecticut-Nutrition-Standards>

Healthy Food Certification (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification>

List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages>

Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/CNS/SummaryCNS.pdf>



For more information, contact Susan S. Fiore, M.S., R.D., Nutrition Education Coordinator Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2075

This document is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/FBlist/SubmitProduct.pdf>.

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Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 607, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, levy.gillespie@ct.gov.