



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office for Food and Nutrition Programs
School Year 2017-2018

Local Wellness Policy Addendum

Local educational agencies (LEA) participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program are required to develop a local school wellness policy that promotes the health of students and addresses the problem of childhood obesity. Wellness policies are tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and present an opportunity to improve the health of each community.

USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) finalized regulations to create a framework and guidelines for written wellness policies established by LEAs. The final rule requires LEAs to begin developing a revised local school wellness policy during school year 2016-2017. The revised policy must be in place by June 30, 2017.

The policies must include the following:

- Specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness (7 CFR 210.31(c)(1));
- Standards and nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages available on the school campus during the school day that are, at a minimum, consistent with Federal regulations for program meals and the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, and designed to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity (7 CFR 210.31(c)(2) and (3)); and
- Policies that allow marketing or advertising of only those foods and beverages that may be sold on the school campus during the school day, i.e., those foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards (available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/fr-072916d>) (7 CFR 210.31(c)(3)(iii)).

LEAs are also required to:

- Review and consider evidence-based strategies in determining local school wellness goals (7 CFR 210.31(c)(1));
- Involve, inform, and update the public (including parents, students, and other stakeholders) about the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy (7 CFR 210.31(d)(2) and (3));
- Conduct an assessment, at least once every three years, to determine compliance, progress, and the extent to which the policy compares to model local school wellness policies (7 CFR 210.31(e)(2)); and
- Update or modify the local school wellness policy as appropriate (7 CFR 210.31(e)(3)).

The local school wellness policy resource center available at <https://healthymeals.fns.usda.gov/school-wellness-resources> provides extensive resources school officials at the local, State, and Federal level may use to better understand the local school wellness policy requirements and their positive benefits.

The FNS Local School Wellness Policies website can be accessed at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/local-school-wellness-policy>. Policies will be reviewed for compliance with the federal law.

Tri-County Schools has established a Local School Wellness Policy for all schools under its jurisdiction. The Policy is compliant with program regulations under 7 CFR 210.31

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Date

Tri-County Schools / Northeast Center for Youth & Families

Local Education Agency

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