

Smart Snack Cookie Q&A

Q: Can I sell a non-whole grain cookie to students during the school day?

A: No, a non-whole grain cookie does not meet Smart Snacks regulations and is unallowable to be sold to students as an a la carte item. The only exception is if the non-whole grain cookie contains at least ¼ cup fruit or vegetable or if the first ingredient is a fruit, a vegetable, a dairy product, or a protein food and meets all other Smart Snacks criteria.

The Smart Snack calculator can be used to determine if an item meets Smart Snack regulations. The calculator can be found here:

https://www.healthiergeneration.org/take_action/schools/snacks_and_beverages/smart_snacks/alliance_product_calculator/

Q: Can I offer a non-whole grain cookie as a grain for a reimbursable meal?

A: Yes, under certain conditions. USDA meal patterns allow up to two oz eq of grain-based desserts to be served over the course of a week in reimbursable meals. If the School Food Authority has been approved for the Whole-Grain Waiver in N.C., at least half of all grains served must be whole-grain-rich. A non-whole-grain cookie could be planned as part of a reimbursable meal if the menu planner does not exceed two oz eq of grain-based desserts in a week and at least half of all grains offered in the NSLP and SBP continue to meet the 2013-14 requirement of being whole-grain rich. Although a non-whole grain cookie can be a part of the reimbursable meal, they may not be an allowable smart snack to be sold to students.