

C.L.A.S.S. Scoring Key & Variable
Information: School Nutrition-Environment
State Policy Classification System
(SNESPCS)

(last updated: December 2024)

Table of Contents

C.L.A.S.S. School Nutrition-Environment State Policy Classification System (SNESPC) Scoring Key & Variable Information	3
C.L.A.S.S. SNESPCS SCORING KEY	5
<i>A la carte</i> in Cafeterias (Non-entrée) Snacks Requirements	6
<i>A la carte</i> in Cafeterias (Non-entrée) Beverage Requirements	8
<i>A la carte</i> in Cafeterias Entrée Requirements	10
Vending Machines Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirements	12
Vending Machines Beverages Requirements	14
School Stores, Canteens and Snack Bars Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirements	16
School Stores, Canteens, and Snack Bars Non-Entrée Beverage Requirements	18
Fundraisers Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirements	20
Fundraisers Beverage Requirements	22
Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices	24
Exceptions for Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices	25
School Meal Environment Requirements	29
Food Service Director Qualification Requirements	30
Coordinating, Advisory, or Wellness Teams or Councils Requirements	31
Nutrition Education Requirements	32
Marketing: Advertising Requirements	33
Marketing: Preferential Pricing Requirements	34
Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening	35
Farm to School Requirements	36
Potable Water Requirements	37
Smart Snacks Food Requirements	38
Smart Snacks Beverage Requirements	40
Coordinated School Health	42
Unpaid School Meal Charges	43
School Vaccinations	44
Healthy School Meals for All Introduction and Definitions	45
Healthy Meals for All	46
School Breakfast for All	48
School Breakfast Strategies	50
Appendix: Coding decision rules	51

C.L.A.S.S. School Nutrition-Environment State Policy Classification System (SNESPC) Scoring Key & Variable Information

The Classification of Laws Associated with School Students (C.L.A.S.S.) incorporates a policy classification system to score state-level codified laws for nutrition in schools. The scoring criteria for these systems are based on public health research and national standards for nutrition developed by a number of organizations, including the Institute of Medicine, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Association of State Boards of Education, and the American College of Preventive Medicine. For more information on nutrition standards for foods in schools, please visit:

www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/nutrition/pdf/nutrition_factsheet_parents.pdf.

The Nutrition Scoring Key provides C.L.A.S.S. data users a quick reference to the criteria used to score state law for a specific policy area, and associated enhancing or inhibiting factors* for a given policy area. For each variable and scoring key description, additional decision rules are provided in the appendix to help inform coder decision making. This document complements the Data Set and Code Book, providing more detail on scoring criteria, and can be used in conjunction with both EXCEL and SPSS SNESPC data files.

Description of the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set and Related Documents

The Data Set includes:

1. C.L.A.S.S. scores, in EXCEL and SPSS formats, for each policy area organized by year (2003 - 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023) and grade level for each state.
2. Variables in the data set that are not part of the C.L.A.S.S. scoring system but provide contextual information (e.g., YEAR, State abbreviation, State FIPS code [STFIPS] the 5 digit Federal Information Processing Standard code which uniquely identifies counties and county equivalents).

The Policy Citation File includes:

1. Excel Worksheet indicating the citation for the relevant state statute or regulation used for coding.
2. Excel Worksheet denoting when a particular law will go into effect, if it did not go into effect the year it was created.

The Scoring Key includes:

1. Variable name for each policy area in the data set (noted in *italics* next to policy area and grade level).
2. Description of each variable and accompanying descriptions of each score.
3. Description of the enhancing or inhibiting factors associated with each policy area.

The Code Book includes:

1. The variable names and labels for each variable used in a C.L.A.S.S. scoring system (i.e. Nutrition & PE).
2. Variables in the data set that are not part of the C.L.A.S.S. scoring system, but provide contextual information (e.g., YEAR, State FIPS code [STFIPS], state abbreviation).

Notes on the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set and Related Documents:

1. The C.L.A.S.S. data set has been compiled using codified statutes and regulations in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Board policies that are not embedded by reference into the law are not included here (ex. Hawaii Board of Education Policies). In addition, DC has been coded using the DC Statutory Code and DC Municipal Regulations, but note that the DC School District also maintains a Local Wellness Policy that is not coded here.
2. Over time, new policy areas have been made to the C.L.A.S.S. scoring system. When a new variable has been added, scores are not available for prior years and noted in the Scoring Key.
3. In addition to the primary scores, there are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit the implementation of a law. These factors are listed for the policy area to which they apply.
4. Generally scores are provided for policy area variables by grade level (i.e., elementary, middle, and high school). For some variables, a score will apply across grade levels (e.g. School Meal Environment; Food Service Director Qualifications; Coordinating, Advisory, Wellness Councils; Nutrition Education; Marketing: Advertising and Promotion Restrictions; Marketing: Preferential Pricing; and Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening). The instances where this occurs are denoted in the Scoring Key.

*Enhancing and inhibiting factors are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of law. The enhancing and inhibiting factors are listed for the policy area to which it applies.

C.L.A.S.S. SNESPCS SCORING KEY

Definition of terms that are used throughout the SNESPCS	
Terminology	Definition
Competitive foods	USDA and GAO defined to include all foods and beverages sold or served outside of the reimbursable federal school meal program.
Federal dietary guidelines	This refers to the 2005 federal dietary guidelines that recommends total fat intake between 20 to 35% of calories (saturated fat at less than 10% of calories) for ages 4 to 18, little added sugars or caloric sweeteners, and consumption of fiber rich fruit, vegetables and whole grains and non-fat and low-fat dairy foods. ¹
Food of minimal nutritional value (FMNV)	Such food include carbonated beverages, water ices, chewing gum, hard candy, jellies and gums, marshmallow candies, fondant, licorice, spun candy, and candy-coated popcorn (7 CFR 210 Appendix B). ^{2,3}
Food and beverages of low nutritive value	This refers to food and beverages providing most of its calories from fat and/or sugar and few vitamins and minerals.
HealthierUS Challenge Criteria	Developed in 2004, the HealthierUS School Challenge, administered by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), recognizes schools that have taken a leadership role in helping students learn to make healthy eating and active lifestyle choices through the HealthierUS School Challenge. Schools can be awarded a gold, silver or bronze level award for making changes to their school nutrition environments, improving the quality of the foods served, and providing students with more nutritious, healthy choices. http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/criteria_instructions.pdf ⁴
HealthierUS Challenge Whole Grain document	<i>HealthierUS Whole Grains Challenge: Whole Grains Resource</i> http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/WholeGrainsforHealthierUS.pdf
IOM Standards	Nutrition standards for foods in schools , established by the Institute of Medicine, 2007.
Smart Snacks in Schools	USDA competitive food interim final rule, codified at 7 CFR 210.11 .
USDA Memo dated 12/17/07: Incorporating the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans into School Meals (memo code: SP 04-2008)	Memo to USDA Regions and State Child Nutrition Programs provides recommendations and guidance for fruits and vegetables, whole grains, milk, cholesterol, and other nutrients/food groups to enhance meal patterns.
Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child	Framework developed by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that expands upon the Coordinated School Health Program.

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and (USDA) U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dietary guidelines for Americans. 2005 Jan [cited 2005 Feb 3]. Available from: <http://www.healthierus.gov/dietaryguidelines/>.

² School Breakfast Program, 7 C.F.R. 220.12 (2005). Available from: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_05/7cfrv4_05.html.

³ National School Lunch Program, 7 C.F.R. 210.11 and 7 C.F.R. 210 (Appendix B) (2005). Available from: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/menu/fmnv.htm>

⁴Institute of Medicine report: Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools: Leading the Way Towards Healthier Youth. April 2007, <http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3788/30181/42502.aspx>

A la carte in Cafeterias (Non-entrée) Snacks Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *ALASNAES*, MS Level- *ALASNAMS*, HS Level- *ALASNAHS*

Score	Description: The <i>a la carte</i> in cafeterias snacks score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of cafeteria snacks with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of <i>A la carte</i> (individual, non-entrée) food outside the reimbursable school meal programs, during the service of meals in the cafeteria, <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fried fruit (fresh or packed in juice or water), and vegetables, whole grain products, non-fat and low fat dairy products (nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored) that are 200 calories or less per serving⁶ <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) • Less than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to dairy or fruit products) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following <i>A la carte</i> (individual, non-entrée) food outside the reimbursable school meal programs, during the service of meals in the cafeteria:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 calories or less per serving <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • No more than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards of <i>A la carte</i> (individual, non-entrée) food with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated or trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium.

3	State restricts sale/service of <i>A la carte</i> food of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ⁵ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement for <i>A la carte</i> food sold or served in cafeterias outside the school meal program is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for <i>A la carte</i> items.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of A la carte in Cafeterias (Non-entrée) Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES- <i>snapores</i>, MS- <i>snaporms</i>, HS- <i>snaporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES- <i>snapenes</i>, MS- <i>snapenms</i>, HS- <i>snapenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES- <i>snamilkes</i>, MS- <i>snamilkms</i>, HS- <i>snamilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products (yogurt).</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES- <i>snagraines</i>, MS- <i>snagrainsms</i>, HS- <i>snagrainshs</i>): Applies if state further defines whole grains to be consistent with FDA guidance on whole grains (see below)</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting Factor</u> (ES- <i>sna50es</i>, MS- <i>sna50ms</i>, HS- <i>sna50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting Factor</u> (<i>snafundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to food/snacks. The funding contingency policy applies across all grade levels.</p>

⁵ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

A la carte in Cafeterias (Non-entrée) Beverage Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *ALABEVES*, MS Level- *ALABEVMS*, HS Level- *ALABEVHS*

Score	Description: The <i>a la carte</i> in cafeterias beverage score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of cafeteria beverages with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of <i>A la carte</i> (individual, non-entrée) beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs, during the service of meals in the cafeteria, <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water without added flavorings, additives or carbonation, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric or non-caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> <p>Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances.</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following <i>A la carte</i> (individual, non-entrée) beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs, during the service of meals in the cafeteria:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> • Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances, <u>and/or</u> <p>Additional beverages allowed with limits on total calories and/or added sugar and caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances (would allow for some sports drinks, juice drinks, flavored waters, and diet sodas)</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated and trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium, <u>or</u> caffeine.
3	State restricts sale/service of <i>A la carte</i> beverages of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ⁶ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement for <i>A la carte</i> beverages sold or served in cafeterias outside the school meal program is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for <i>A la carte</i> items.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of <i>A la carte</i> in cafeterias (non-entrée) beverage requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies</p> <p>“0” if it does not apply</p> <p>“999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p>

⁶ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

	<p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>alabevpores</i>, MS- <i>alabevporms</i>, HS- <i>alabevporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>alabevpenes</i>, MS- <i>alabevpenms</i>, HS- <i>alabevpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>alabevmilkes</i>, MS- <i>alabevmilkms</i>, HS- <i>alabevmilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>alabev50es</i>, MS- <i>alabev50ms</i>, HS- <i>alabev50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>alabevfundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to beverages.</p>
--	--

A la carte in Cafeterias Entrée Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *ENTREEES*, MS Level- *ENTREEMS*, HS Level- *ENTREEHS*

Score	Description: The entrée la carte in cafeterias score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of a la carte entrées with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
5	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of <i>A la carte</i> entrée items outside the reimbursable school meal programs, <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Entrée a la carte items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National school lunch entrée items <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • Less than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars, <u>and</u> • Sodium content 480 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
4	<p>State mandates nutrition standards for entrée a la carte items with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated and trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar <u>or</u> sodium.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
3	State restricts sale/service for entrée a la carte items of low nutritive value but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement for <i>A la carte</i> entrée items sold or served in cafeterias outside the school meal program is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to a la carte sales/service for both individual snack and entrée items.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for a la carte entrée items.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of A la carte in Cafeterias Entrée Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u><i>Note:</i> Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits.</u></p>

	<p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>entpores</i>, MS- <i>entporms</i>, HS- <i>entporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>entpenes</i>, MS- <i>entpenms</i>, HS- <i>entpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>ent50es</i>, MS- <i>ent50ms</i>, HS- <i>ent50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u>: (<i>entfundcgy</i>) Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to a la carte entrees.</p>
--	---

Vending Machines Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *VEND_ES*, MS Level- *VEND_MS*, HS Level- *VEND_HS*

Score	Description: The vending machine food/snack score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of vending food/snacks with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of food through vending <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions.</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fried fruit (fresh or packed in juice or water) and vegetables, whole grain products, nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored dairy products that are 200 calories or less per serving⁶ <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • Less than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following food items through vending machines:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 calories or less per serving <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • No more than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of foods through vending machines with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated or trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium.
3	State restricts sale of foods through vending machines of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ⁷ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement of foods sold through vending machines is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service or other competitive foods.

⁷ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

1	State recommends nutrition standards for sold through vending machines
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Vending Machines Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>vendpores</i>, MS- <i>vendporms</i>, HS- <i>vendporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>vendpenes</i>, MS- <i>vendpenms</i>, HS- <i>vendpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>vendmilkes</i>, MS- <i>vendmilkms</i>, HS- <i>vendmilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products (yogurt).</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>vendgraines</i>, MS- <i>vendgrainms</i>, HS- <i>vendgrainhs</i>): Applies if state further defines whole grains to be consistent with FDA and USDA guidance on whole grains (see below)</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>vend50es</i>, MS- <i>vend50ms</i>, HS- <i>vend50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>vendfundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to food/snacks.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>vendlessdayes</i>, MS- <i>vendlessdayms</i>, HS- <i>vendlessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>

Vending Machines Beverages Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *BEVENDES*, MS Level- *BEVENDMS*, HS Level- *BEVENDHS*

Note: If state policy sets out standards for all competitive food items without specifying the category (e.g., there is no separation for vended items versus school stores versus canteens versus fundraisers), the policy should still receive a score in 4 areas Vending Machines-non entrée foods/snacks only; Vending Machines – beverages only; School stores, canteens, and snack bars – foods only, and School stores, canteens, and snack bars – beverages only).

Score	Description: The vending machine beverage score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of vending beverage with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of beverages through vending <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water without added flavorings, additives or carbonation, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric or non-caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> <p>Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances.</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following beverages through vending machines:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> • Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances. <p>Additional beverages allowed with limits on total calories and/or added sugar (would allow for some sports drinks, juice drinks, flavored waters, and diet sodas)</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of beverages through vending machines with specified limits on calories, <i>or</i> fats (saturated and trans), <i>or</i> total or added sugar, <i>or</i> sodium, <i>or</i> caffeine.
3	State restricts sale of beverages through vending machines of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ⁸ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement of beverages sold through vending machines is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service or other competitive foods.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for beverages sold through vending machines
0	No provision
Tracking variables	Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Vending Machines Beverages Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies

⁸ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

	<p>“0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevendpores</i>, MS- <i>bevendporms</i>, HS- <i>bevendporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevendpenes</i>, MS- <i>bevendpenms</i>, HS- <i>bevendpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevendmilkes</i>, MS- <i>bevendmilkms</i>, HS- <i>bevendmilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevend50es</i>, MS- <i>bevend50ms</i>, HS- <i>bevend50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>bevendfundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to beverages.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevendlessdayes</i>, MS- <i>bevendlessdayms</i>, HS- <i>bevendlessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>
--	--

School Stores, Canteens and Snack Bars Non-entrée Food/Snacks

Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *VENUE_ES*, MS Level- *VENUE_MS*, HS Level- *VENUE_HS*

Score	Description: The school store, canteens and snack bar score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of food/snacks with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of food through school stores, canteens and snack bars <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fried fruit (fresh or packed in juice or water) and vegetables, whole grain products, non-fat and low fat dairy products (nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored) that are 200 calories or less per serving⁶ <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • Less than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following food items through school stores, canteens and snack bars:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 calories or less per serving <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • No more than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of foods through school stores, canteens and snack bars with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated or trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium.
3	State restricts sale of foods through school stores, canteens and snack bars of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ⁹ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³

⁹ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

2	State requirement of foods sold through school stores, canteens and snack bars is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service or other competitive foods.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for sold through school stores, canteens and snack bars.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of School Stores, Canteens and Snack Bars Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>venupores</i>, MS- <i>venuporms</i>, HS- <i>venuporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>venupenes</i>, MS- <i>venupenms</i>, HS- <i>venupenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>venumilkes</i>, MS- <i>venumilkms</i>, HS- <i>venumilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products (yogurt).</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>venu50es</i>, MS- <i>venu50ms</i>, HS- <i>venu50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>venufundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to food/snacks.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>venulessdayes</i>, MS- <i>venulessdayms</i>, HS- <i>venulessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>

School Stores, Canteens, and Snack Bars Non-Entrée Beverage Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *BEVENUES*, MS Level- *BEVENUMS*, HS Level- *BEVENUHS*

Score	Description: The school stores, canteens, and snack bar beverage score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of beverages with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of beverages through school stores, canteen or snack bars <i>or</i> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water without added flavorings, additives or carbonation, <i>and/or</i> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <i>and/or</i> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric or non-caloric sweeteners, <i>and/or</i> <p>Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances.</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following beverages through school stores, canteen or snack bars:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, <i>and/or</i> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <i>and/or</i> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric sweeteners, <i>and/or</i> • Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances. <p>Additional beverages allowed with limits on total calories and/or added sugar (would allow for some sports drinks, juice drinks, flavored waters, and diet sodas)</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of beverages through school stores, canteen or snack bars with specified limits on calories, <i>or</i> fats (saturated and trans), <i>or</i> total or added sugar, <i>or</i> sodium, <i>or</i> caffeine.
3	State restricts sale of beverages through school stores, canteen or snack bars of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ¹⁰ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement of beverages sold through school stores, canteen or snack bars is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be available); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to <i>A la carte</i> sales/service or other competitive foods.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for beverages sold through school stores, canteen or snack bars.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of School Stores, Canteens and Snack Bars Non-entrée Beverage Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies

¹⁰ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

	<p>“0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevenupores</i>, MS- <i>bevenuporms</i>, HS- <i>bevenuporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevenupenes</i>, MS- <i>bevenupenms</i>, HS- <i>bevenupenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevenumilkes</i>, MS- <i>bevenumilkms</i>, HS- <i>bevenumilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevvenu50es</i>, MS- <i>bevvenu50ms</i>, HS- <i>bevvenu50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>bevenufundcgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to beverages.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevenulessdayes</i>, MS- <i>bevenulessdayms</i>, HS- <i>bevenulessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>
--	---

Fundraisers Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *FUND_ES*, MS Level- *FUND_MS*, HS Level- *FUND_HS*

Score	Description: The fundraiser food/snacks score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of snacks with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of food through school-based, on campus fundraisers <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fried fruit (fresh or packed in juice or water) and vegetables, whole grain products, nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored dairy products that are 200 calories or less per serving⁶ <u>and</u> • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • Less than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following food items through school based, on campus fundraisers, throughout the school day:</p> <p><u>Non-entrée food items limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 calories or less per serving <u>and</u>: • No more than 35% of total calories from fat (with the exception of nut/seed products) <u>and</u> • No more than 10% calories from saturated fat <u>and</u> • Zero trans fat <u>and</u> • 35% or less by weight of total sugars or 35% or less of calories from total sugars (does not apply to fruit or dairy) <u>and</u> • Sodium content 200 mg or less <p><i>Note:</i> Points will apply if state has established a standard that uses a <i>gram</i> limit that is comparable to the % limits identified above for fat, saturated fat and sugar (i.e., no more than 6 grams of total fat per 150 calorie portion).</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of foods through school based, on campus fundraisers with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated or trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium.
3	State restricts sale of foods through school based, on campus fundraisers of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ¹¹ but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³

¹¹ As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

2	State requirement of foods sold through school based, on campus fundraisers is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be sold); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to fundraisers.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for sold through school based, on campus fundraisers.
0	No provision.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Fundraisers Non-entrée Food/Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Note: Exceptions to total sugar limit are allowed for dairy products and fruits</u></p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>fundnofoodes</i>, MS- <i>fundnofoodms</i>, HS- <i>fundnofoodhs</i>): Applies if state specifies that only non-food items are permitted for fundraisers.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>fundafteres</i>, MS- <i>fundafterms</i>, HS- <i>fundafterhs</i>): Applies if state policy requires/encourages the promotion of healthy food and beverage options or non-food options during after-school fundraising events and activities either on school property or off site</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>fundpores</i>, MS- <i>fundporms</i>, HS- <i>fundporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>fundpenes</i>, MS- <i>fundpenms</i>, HS- <i>fundpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>fundmilkes</i>, MS- <i>fundmilkms</i>, HS- <i>fundmilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products (yogurt).</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>fund50es</i>, MS- <i>fund50ms</i>, HS- <i>fund50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>fund2cgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to food/snacks.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>fundlessdayes</i>, MS- <i>fundlessdayms</i>, HS- <i>fundlessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>

Fundraisers Beverage Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *BEVFUNDES*, MS Level- *BEVFUNDMS*, HS Level- *BEVFUNDHS*

Score	Description: The fundraisers beverages score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of beverages with respect to the IOM recommended standard at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State prohibits the sale or service of beverages through school-based, on campus fundraisers <u>or</u> allows only the following exceptions.</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water without added flavorings, additives or carbonation, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric or non-caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> <p>Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances.</p>
5	<p>State allows the sale or service of only the following beverages through school-based, on campus fundraisers:</p> <p><u>Beverages limited to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, <u>and/or</u> • Nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk, <u>and/or</u> • Other beverages with at least 100% fruit/vegetable juice with no added caloric sweeteners, <u>and/or</u> • Caffeine-free, with the exception of trace amounts of naturally occurring caffeine substances. <p>Additional beverages allowed with limits on total calories and/or added sugar (would allow for some sports drinks, juice drinks, flavored waters, and diet sodas)</p>
4	State mandates nutrition standards for the sale of beverages through school-based, on campus fundraisers with specified limits on calories, <u>or</u> fats (saturated and trans), <u>or</u> total or added sugar, <u>or</u> sodium <u>or</u> caffeine.
3	State restricts sale of beverages through school school-based, on campus fundraisers of low nutritive value that meets federal requirements for FMNV, ¹² but without establishing nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
2	State requirement of beverages sold through school-based, on campus fundraisers is undefined (e.g., “healthy” foods and beverages must be sold); or state requires a state agency to develop and adopt nutrition standards applicable to fundraisers.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for beverages sold through school-based, on campus fundraisers.
0	No provision
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Fundraisers Beverage Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies</p> <p>“0” if it does not apply</p>

¹² As of July 1, 2014, the federal provision regulating FMNVs was no longer in effect. State laws using this language continue to be scored here, however please see variables related to Smart Snacks for federal competitive food language beginning July 1, 2014.

	<p>“999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundnofoodes</i>, MS- <i>bevfundnofoodms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundnofoodhs</i>): Applies if state specifies that only non-food items are permitted for fundraisers.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundafteres</i>, MS- <i>bevfundafterms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundafterhs</i>): Applies if state requires/encourages the promotion of healthy food and beverage options or non-food options during after-school fundraising events and activities either on school property or off site</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundpores</i>, MS- <i>bevfundporms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundpenes</i>, MS- <i>bevfundpenms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundpenhs</i>): Applies if penalties are established for violations.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundmilkes</i>, MS- <i>bevfundmilkms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundmilkhs</i>): Attempts are made to limit the amount of added sugar in flavored milk/dairy products.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfund50es</i>, MS- <i>bevfund50ms</i>, HS- <i>bevfund50hs</i>): Policy allows for a certain percentage of unhealthy/junk food items</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>bevfund2cgy</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to beverages.</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (ES- <i>bevfundlessdayes</i>, MS- <i>bevfundlessdayms</i>, HS- <i>bevfundlessdayhs</i>): Applies if standards apply for less than the school day.</p>
--	--

Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices

Note: The italicized texts in parenthesis are the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices

Variable name in data set: (classbon)

Score	Description: The Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the need for classroom parties/activities/events/practices to encourage healthy food and beverage options or non-food options or restricts the use of unhealthy food as a reward in the classroom.
1	State policy does address classroom parties/activities/events/practices or specifically addresses the use of food as a reward.
0	State policy does not address classroom parties/activities/events/practices or the use of food as a reward.
Enhancing/ Inhibiting Factors	There are no enhancing or inhibiting factors for this variable.

Exceptions for Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices

Beginning with the 2015 CLASS data set, the variable “Exceptions for Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices” (classpen) was sunset. Please see the inhibiting factors of fundexempt and bevfundexempt that are coded under Smart Snacks for data pertaining to exceptions allowed to established nutrition standards.

Exceptions for Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices

*Variable name in data set: (classpen) *new 2013*

Score	Description: The Exceptions for Classroom Parties/Activities/Events/Practices score reflects the degree to which state law specifically allows for exceptions to established nutrition guidelines for classroom parties/activities/events/practices.
1	State allows for exceptions to established nutrition guidelines for classroom parties/activities/events/practices.
0	State does not specifically allow for exceptions to established nutrition guidelines for classroom parties/activities/events/practices.
Enhancing/ Inhibiting Factors	There are no enhancing or inhibiting factors for this variable.

Reimbursable School Lunch Requirements

Beginning with the 2012 CLASS data set, the variable “Reimbursable School Lunch Requirements” (MEALS_ES; MEALS_MS; MEALS_HS; and all enhancement/inhibiting factors) was sunset. In 2012, USDA instituted new, enhanced nutrition standards for the National School Lunch Program. As a result, state laws in this area are no longer being captured. Prior to the 2012 data set, however, the coding scheme below applies.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *MEALS_ES*, MS Level- *MEALS_MS*, HS Level- *MEALS_HS*

Score	Description: The reimbursable school lunches score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of reimbursable lunches with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and the Federal Dietary Guidelines for Americans at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	<p>State addresses nutrition in reimbursable school lunch programs by requiring meals in all schools to meet <u>all</u> of the following 4 criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole Grains: whole grain foods are offered 3 or more times per week; or, half of all grains offered are whole grains. • Fruits and vegetables: both a fruit and vegetable are offered each day, regardless of the menu planning approach used; or, three different fruits and five different vegetables are offered each week. • Milk: nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk offered daily. • Cholesterol: meals, on average over a school week, provide less than 100 mg cholesterol at lunch.
5	<p>State addresses nutrition in reimbursable school lunch programs by requiring meals in all schools to meet <u>2 or 3</u> of the following 4 criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole Grains: whole grain foods are offered 3 or more times per week; or, half of all grains offered are whole grains. • Fruits and vegetables: both a fruit and vegetable are offered each day, regardless of the menu planning approach used; or, three different fruits and five different vegetables are offered each week. • Milk: nonfat or 1% only, flavored or non-flavored milk offered daily. • Cholesterol: meals, on average over a school week, provide less than 100 mg cholesterol at lunch.
4	State addresses nutrition in reimbursable school lunch programs by requiring meals in all schools to meet <u>at least 1 of the 4</u> criteria outlined above in the 5 point score category.
3	<p>State addresses nutrition in reimbursable school lunch programs with requirements or standards that exceed compliance with federal regulations for school meals (7 CFR 210 for the National School Lunch Program) but does not meet criteria outlined in the 4 or 5 point score categories outlined above.</p> <p><i>For example, state sets standards for some food groups/nutrients that do not meet standards in 4 or 5 score categories above; state prohibits deep-fried foods in school meals; state requires more fruits and vegetables without specifying amount and/or frequency.</i></p>
2	State addresses nutrition in reimbursable school lunch programs with a general mandate to develop and adopt requirements or standards that exceed compliance with federal regulations (e.g., State Education Agency is required to establish nutrition standards for all food and beverages sold or served in schools, including school nutrition programs). Beginning in 2012, state requires that school lunches meet existing federal regulations for school meals.
1	State recommends nutrition standards for school lunches that exceed compliance with federal regulations.
0	No provision or state requires that school lunches meet existing federal regulations for school meals (7 CFR 210 for the National School Lunch Program) (through 2010).

¹³ USHealthier School Challenge Criteria: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/index.html>; USDA Memo, December 2007

Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Reimbursable School Lunch Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies</p> <p>“0” if it does not apply</p> <p>“999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>mealpores</i>, MS- <i>mealporms</i>, HS- <i>mealporhs</i>): Applies if state specifies portion sizes.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – whole grain (ES- <i>mealgraines</i>, MS- <i>mealgrainms</i>, HS- <i>mealgrainhs</i>): Applies if state requires whole grains to be offered each day.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – cooked legumes (dried beans or peas) (ES- <i>mealegumes</i>, MS- <i>mealegumms</i>, HS- <i>mealegumhs</i>): Applies if state specifies that they must be offered one or more times a week.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – Vitamin C (ES- <i>mealvitces</i>, MS- <i>mealvitcms</i>, HS- <i>mealvitchs</i>): Applies if state requires that a good source of Vitamin C be offered each day.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – fruit and vegetable (ES- <i>mealfves</i>, MS- <i>mealfvms</i>, HS- <i>mealfvhs</i>): Applies if state specifies that dark green or orange vegetables or fruit is offered three or more times per week.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – iron (ES- <i>mealirones</i>, MS- <i>mealironms</i>, HS- <i>mealironhs</i>): Applies if state specifies that two or more sources of iron is offered daily.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – limits (ES- <i>mealimites</i>, MS- <i>mealimitms</i>, HS- <i>mealimiths</i>): Applies if state sets limits or targets for sodium or trans fat.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> – fiber (ES- <i>mealfiberes</i>, MS- <i>mealfiberms</i>, HS- <i>mealfiberhs</i>): Applies if state sets a standard for fiber (at least 11 grams per meal or 11 grams averaged over the course of the week).</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>mealinfoes</i>, MS- <i>mealinfoms</i>, HS- <i>mealinfohs</i>): State requires nutrient information for each meal be available at point of purchase/in the cafeteria near where the meal is served or on the menu (e.g., fat, calories, protein, carbohydrates).</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor</u> (<i>mealfund</i>): Applies if there is a funding contingency written into the law that requires funding to implement the enhancements/improvements to meals.</p>
--------------------	--

School Meal Environment Requirements

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: ENVIRO2

Score	Description: The school meal environment score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the meal environment with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and the IOM recommended standard.
3	State mandates two standards (beyond the school meal federal requirements) ^{6,7} for designated meal periods, in categories such as: (1) specific meal scheduling time requirements (e.g., lunch must be served between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and/or lunch must follow recess), and (2) specific eating time requirements (e.g., school must provide 20 minutes for students to eat after students are seated).
2	State mandates one standard (beyond the school meal federal requirements) ^{6,7} for designated meal period, in categories such as: (1) specific meal scheduling time requirements (e.g., lunch must be served between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.), and/or (2) specific eating time requirements (e.g., school must provide 20 minutes for students to eat after students are seated).
1	State recommends requirements for designated meal periods that exceed compliance with federal regulations for the school meal.
0	No provision.
Tracking Variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of School Meal Environment Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>envirotime</i>): Law specifies that school provides at least 10 minutes for breakfast and 20 minutes for lunch <u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>envirosched</i>): Law specifies that school only schedules lunch between 11am and 1pm¹²</p>

Food Service Director Qualification Requirements

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: SERVIC2

Score	Description: The food service director qualifications score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the qualifications for food service directors with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and National Associations of State Boards of Education recommended standard.
4	State requires newly-hired district food service directors to have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in nutrition, dietetics, food service management, (or related field) or certification/credentialing from either a state or national program (e.g., School Nutrition Association or American Dietetic Association) at a level that specifies a post-secondary degree and a minimum requirement for specialized training in a nutrition-related field.
3	State requires newly-hired food service directors to have a minor in a nutrition, dietetics, food service management (or related field) or certification/credentialing that specifies a post-secondary degree (e.g., associate's degree) and a minimum requirement for specialized training in a nutrition-related field.
2	State requires newly-hired district food service directors to have a high school degree / GED and, in addition, a minimum requirement for specialized training in a nutrition-related field; or state requires certification/credentialing that specifies a HS/GED degree with a minimum requirement for specialized training in a nutrition-related field.
1	State recommends credentials for food service directors (or State certification is voluntary).
0	No provision.
Tracking variable	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Food Service Director Qualification Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>servbon</i>): Applies if state addresses professional development for food service directors, whether related to certification or otherwise.</p>

Coordinating, Advisory, or Wellness Teams or Councils Requirements

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: ADVISORY

Score	Description: The coordinating, advisory, or wellness teams or councils score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the nutrition and wellness policies of these advisory or councils with respect to the Center for Disease Control and National Associations of State Boards of Education recommended standard.
3	State mandates that districts, local education agencies or schools form school health coordinating, advisory or wellness councils that include a nutrition component and linked to local wellness policies required by the federal “Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-265 section 204)” or otherwise, establishes a state-wide infrastructure to support such programs.
2	State mandates that districts, local education agencies or schools form school health coordinating, advisory or wellness councils linked to local wellness policies required by the federal “Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004” or otherwise.
1	State recommends voluntary coordinating, advisory or wellness councils for districts, local education agencies or schools.
0	No provision.
Tracking variable	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Coordinating, Advisory, or Wellness Teams or Councils Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>advisboard</i>): Applies if state creates a board/commission/ committee to provide advice and recommendations related to nutrition and youth overweight policies. <u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>advisreview</i>): Applies if state reviews/assesses local committee actions and makes recommendations.</p>

Nutrition Education Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *EDUC_ES*, MS Level- *EDUC_MS*, HS Level- *EDUC_HS*

Score	Description: The nutrition education score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of nutrition education with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and the Center for Disease Control recommended standard at the ES, MS, HS grade level.
4	State requires a curriculum to incorporate/integrate sequential nutrition education content into standards-based health education curriculum with reference to specific nutrition standards for specified grade levels. For example, standards may specify that by a certain grade level, certain standards, concepts or content should be completed by grades 2, 5, 8 and 12. Nutrition education components can be included as part of overall health curriculum.
3	State requires a curriculum to incorporate/integrate sequential nutrition education content into standards-based health education curriculum without reference to specific nutrition standards or grades. Nutrition education components can be included as part of overall health curriculum.
2	State requires a curriculum to incorporate nutrition education content into health curriculum without reference to any additional requirements. Note: If state requires comprehensive health education that is consistent with CDC's Coordinated School Health Program (CSHP), this would qualify, since nutrition is included.
1	State recommends a curriculum to incorporate nutrition education content into health curriculum without reference to any additional requirements. Note: If state recommends comprehensive health education that is consistent with CDC's Coordinated School Health Program (CSHP), this would qualify since nutrition is included.
0	No provision for broad health education provision with no mention of nutrition.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Nutrition Education Requirement policies, and are coded as: "1" in data set if the factor applies "0" if it does not apply "999" if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>educfoodserves</i>, MS- <i>educfoodservims</i>, HS- <i>educfoodservihs</i>): Applies if state specifies that schools must integrate/ coordinate nutrition instruction in the school with the food service program and/or instruction in other subjects.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>educrefes</i>, MS- <i>educrefms</i>, HS- <i>educrefhs</i>): Applies if state references the National Health Education Standards, the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, or MyPyramid, in language regarding nutrition education¹²</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>educinses</i>, MS- <i>educinsms</i>, HS- <i>educinshs</i>): Applies if state specifies hours of student instruction per year (e.g., 50 hours per year) and/or hours of nutrition education professional development (e.g., 10 hours per year).</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (ES- <i>educcshpes</i>, MS- <i>educcshpms</i>, HS- <i>educcshps</i>): Applies if state requires health education (based on CDC's CSHP) for any grade.</p>

Marketing: Advertising Requirements

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: MARKTING

Score	Description: The marketing advertising score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the amount of advertising within the school with respect to the IOM and American College of Preventive Medicine recommended standard.
5	State prohibits the sales, commercial promotion/advertising, or giving away of food and beverages, during the school day, that do not conform to specified nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
4	State prohibits commercial advertising/promotion of all food and beverages, during the school day, that do not conform to specified nutrition standards that meet or exceed federal dietary guidelines. ³
3	State limits certain types of commercial advertising/promotion for low-nutrient food and beverages in certain locations and/or at certain times (e.g., direct advertising, such as a requirement to switch vending machine signage for soda to signage for water; or indirect advertising, such as in-school fundraisers involving branded foods).
2	State requirement for advertising/marketing is undefined (e.g. schools must promote “healthy” food choices and prohibit advertising/marketing of “less healthy” food and beverages); or state requires districts or schools to develop and adopt a standard for commercial advertising/promotion of food or beverages.
1	State recommends a standard for nutrition-based marketing of food and beverages to students during the school day.
0	No provision.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Marketing: Advertising Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>incentive</i>): Applies if a state prohibits the use of commercial food products (through coupon, incentives or other means) as a reward for school achievement.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>instructban</i>): State prohibits all advertising associated with instruction (such as the use of logos and brands for food/beverage items on educational materials provided by the school).</p>

Marketing: Preferential Pricing Requirements

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: PRF_PRIC

Score	Description: The marketing preferential pricing score reflects the degree to which state law addresses preferential pricing with respect to the recommendations published in the scientific literature.
4	State mandates preferential pricing, applicable to multiple settings, to promote nutrient-dense food or beverages choices (e.g., preferential pricing of fruits and vegetables wherever sold or served in school).
3	State mandates preferential pricing; applicable to a single setting or food group to promote nutrient-dense food or beverages choices (e.g., vending prices may not favor carbonated beverages over water or 100% fruit juice).
2	State mandates a general requirement for preferential pricing (e.g., districts or schools shall promote healthy foods through preferential pricing); or State requires districts or schools to develop and adopt a policy related to preferential pricing for nutrient-dense food and beverages.
1	State recommends preferential pricing to promote nutrient-dense food or beverage choices.
0	No provision.
Tracking variable	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Marketing: Preferential Pricing Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (<i>pricplace</i>): Applies if state addresses placement of food or beverages to promote nutrient-dense food and beverage choices (e.g., fruits and vegetables should be offered at all points of service).</p>

Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening

Note: This policy applies across all grade levels. The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: BMI

Score	Description: The Body Mass Index (BMI) screening score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the prevention of overweight and obesity in accordance with the IOM and Federal Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommended standard.
3	State mandates BMI screening (if not exempted by parents) in all grades AND mandates purpose of screening, expected outcomes, appropriate parent notification/communication, and appropriate follow-up actions. ¹⁴
2	State mandates BMI screening (if not exempted by parents) AND mandates purpose of screening, expected outcomes, appropriate parent notification/communication, and appropriate follow-up actions. Grade levels not specified.
1	State recommends/encourages/allows schools to conduct BMI screening that would include purpose of screening, expected outcomes, appropriate parent notification/communication, and appropriate follow-up actions.
0	No BMI screening provision OR BMI screening required/recommended but no mention of purpose, outcomes, parent notification/communication, and/or appropriate follow up.
Tracking variable	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Body Mass Index Screening Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Inhibiting factor</u> (to track distinction between the two zero categories) (<i>bmi_fwup</i>): BMI screening required/recommended but no mention of purpose, outcomes, parent notification/communication, and/or appropriate follow up.</p>

¹⁴ Nihiser AJ, Lee SM, Wechsler H, McKenna M, Odom E, Reinold C, Thompson D, Grummer-Strawn L. Body Mass Index Measurement in Schools. Journal of School Health. 2007;77(10):651–671.
http://www.ashaweb.org/journal_schoolhealth.html#bmi

Farm to School Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *FRMSCHEs*, MS Level- *FRMSCHMS*, HS Level- *FRMSCHHS*

Score	Description: The Farm to School score reflects the degree to which state law establishes a farm to school program with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommended School Health Guidelines at the ES, MS, HS grade level.
4	State establishes a Farm to School program which requires all of the following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance for the Farm to School program provided by the state (e.g., website of farmers/schools participating in the program, farm/food service director education, or other outreach). • Nutrition education to students in conjunction with the program (e.g. school garden or farm tours). • Dedicated funding (i.e., state grants) for the program • State defines “local” or “regional” produce used in the program
3	State establishes a Farm to School program with at least 2 of the 4 criteria listed above.
2	State establishes a Farm to School program without specified requirements.
1	State recommends that schools establish a Farm to School program, OR state only requires less than one week devoted to a Farm to School Program (e.g., a pilot).
0	No provision for establishment of a Farm to School program.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Nutrition Education Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (at all school levels- <i>schgrd</i>): Applies if state addresses school gardens as a stand-alone program.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (at all school levels- <i>interag</i>): Applies if state requires interagency collaboration regarding the Farm to School program.</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (at all school levels- <i>intcurr</i>): Applies if state requires the Farm to School nutrition component be integrated into permanent curriculum (e.g., health or science).</p>

Potable Water Requirements

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels.

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *POTWTRES*, MS Level-*POTWTRMS*, HS Level- *POTWTRHS*

Score	Description: The potable water score reflects the degree to which state law requires free potable water access with respect to the USDA National School Lunch Program and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommended School Health Guidelines at the ES, MS, HS grade level.
4	State requires free potable water access with requirements or standards that exceed compliance with federal regulations (7 CFR 210 for the National School Lunch Program) and meets all the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires access to potable water during all meal times. • Requires access to potable water at all times during the day. • Requires access to potable water in other areas of the school building other than the cafeteria.
3	State requires free potable water access with requirements or standards that exceed compliance with federal regulations (7 CFR 210 for the National School Lunch Program) and meets at least 1 of the 3 criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires access to potable water during all meal times. • Requires access to potable water during at all times during the day. • Requires access to potable water in other areas of the school building other than the cafeteria.
2	State requires that potable water be available to children at no charge in the place where lunch meals are served during meal service.
1	State recommends access to free potable water that exceeds compliance with federal regulations (7 CFR 210 for the National School Lunch Program).
0	No provision for access to potable water.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Nutrition Education Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor</u> (at all school levels- <i>wtrecp</i>): Applies if state requires that schools provide a water receptacle near all potable water access points (i.e., cups/pitchers).</p>

Smart Snacks Food Requirements

Variable name in data set: ES Level- SMARTSNACKES, MS Level- SMARTSNACKMS, HS Level- SMARTSNACKHS

Score	Description: The Smart Snacks Requirement score reflects the degree to which state law addresses compliance with the federal rule known as “Smart Snacks” standards ¹⁵ at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	State institutes a complete ban on competitive food sales.
5	<p>State requires compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for food sold at school and defines the standards <u>or</u> requires compliance with articulated standards that meet or exceed Smart Snacks requirements, even if no reference to Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 exists.</p> <p>Smart Snacks requires that all food fall into one of the general standards as well as meet the specific nutrient standards.</p> <p>General food standard requires that food sold must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a grain product that contains 50 percent or more whole grains by weight or have the first ingredient a whole grain; or • Have as the first ingredient a fruit, vegetable, dairy product, protein food; or • Be a combination food that contains at least ¼ cup of fruit and/or vegetable; or • Contain 10% of the daily value of one of the nutrients of public health concern based on the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans¹⁶ (calcium, potassium, vitamin D, or dietary fiber)*; and • If water is the first ingredient, the second ingredient must be one of the food items above <p>Nutrient standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 200 calories per snack portion • No more than 350 calories per entrée • No more than 230 mg of sodium per snack item** • No more than 480 mg of sodium per entrée item • No more than 35% total calories from fat*** • Less than 10% total calories from saturated fat*** • Zero grams trans fat per portion (less than 0.5g per portion) • No more than 35% of weight from total sugars**** <p>*Beginning July 1, 2016 foods may not qualify using the 10% DV criteria ** Effective July 1, 2016, these snack items and side dishes must have not more than 200 mg of sodium per item as packaged or served. ***Exemptions to fat/saturated fat requirements: reduced fat cheese and part skim mozzarella cheese, nuts, seeds, nut/seed butters, dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds with no added nutritive sweeteners or fat,</p>

¹⁵ *National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*, 7 CFR 210.11 (interim final rule June 28, 2013) available at http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?rgn=div5&node=7:4.1.1.1.1#se7.4.210_111. See also Tools for Schools: Focusing on Smart Snacks. Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/healthierschoolday/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>.

¹⁶ Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010. U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2010. Available at <http://health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2010/dietaryguidelines2010.pdf>.

	<p>seafood with no added fat</p> <p>****Exemptions to sugar requirements: dried whole fruits or vegetables, dried whole fruit or vegetable pieces, dehydrated fruits or vegetables with no added nutritive sweeteners, dried fruits with nutritive sweeteners required for processing, products that consist of only dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds, fresh frozen and canned fruits and vegetables with no added ingredients</p>
4	State requires compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for food sold at school without specifying actual standards.
3	<p>State requires compliance with all of the specific nutrient standards of Smart Snacks.</p> <p>Nutrient standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 200 calories per snack portion • No more than 350 calories per entrée • No more than 230 mg of sodium per snack item** • No more than 480 mg of sodium per entrée item • No more than 35% total calories from fat*** • Less than 10% total calories from saturated fat*** • Zero grams trans fat per portion (not more than 0.5g per portion) • No more than 35% of weight from total sugars**** <p>*Beginning July 1, 2016 foods may not qualify using the 10% DV criteria</p> <p>**Effective July 1, 2016, these snack items and side dishes must have not more than 200 mg of sodium per item as packaged or served.</p> <p>***Exemptions to fat/saturated fat requirements: reduced fat cheese and part skim mozzarella cheese, nuts, seeds, nut/seed butters, dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds with no added nutritive sweeteners or fat, seafood with no added fat</p> <p>****Exemptions to sugar requirements: dried whole fruits or vegetables, dried whole fruit or vegetable pieces, dehydrated fruits or vegetables with no added nutritive sweeteners, dried fruits with nutritive sweeteners required for processing, products that consist of only dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds, fresh frozen and canned fruits and vegetables with no added ingredients</p>
2	State requires some nutrition standards that meet or exceed Smart Snacks requirements with specified limits on calories <u>or</u> sodium, <u>or</u> fat, <u>or</u> saturated fat, <u>or</u> trans fat, <u>or</u> sugar.
1	State recommends compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for food sold at school.
0	No provision related to Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11.
Tracking Variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Smart Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies</p> <p>“0” if it does not apply</p> <p>“999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES-fundnoexemptes; MS-fundnoexemptms; HS-fundnoexempths): Applies if policy allows for 0 exempt fundraisers each year</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting Factor</u> (ES-fundexemptes; MS-fundexemptms; HS-fundexempths): Applies if policy allows for a certain number of exempt fundraisers each year</p>

Smart Snacks Beverage Requirements

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *BEVSMARTSNACKES*, MS Level- *BEVSMARTSNACKMS*, HS Level- *BEVSMARTSNACKHS*

Score	Description: The Smart Snacks Requirement score reflects the degree to which state law addresses compliance with the federal rule known as “Smart Snacks” standards ⁹ at the ES, MS, and HS grade level.
6	State institutes a complete ban on competitive food sales.
5	<p>State requires compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for beverages sold at school and defines the standards <u>or</u> requires compliance with articulated standards that meet or exceed Smart Snacks requirements, even if no reference to Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 exists.</p> <p>Smart Snacks requires that beverages be limited to the following in elementary and middle schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plain water (with or without carbonation but no flavorings) ● Unflavored low fat milk ● Unflavored or flavored fat free milk and milk alternatives permitted by NSLP/SBP ● 100% fruit/vegetable juice ● 100% fruit/vegetable juice diluted with water (with or without carbonation) and no added sweeteners <p>High Schools may additionally sell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than 20-fluid ounce portions of calorie-free, flavored water (with or without carbonation); and other beverages containing < 5 calories/8 fl. oz. (or ≤ 10 calories/20 fl. oz.) ● No more than 12-fluid ounce portions of beverages with ≤ 40 calories/8 fl. oz. or ≤ 60 calories/12 fl. oz. <p>Serving sizes are limited as follows: ES—8 fl. oz. for all beverages except water MS—12 fl. oz. for all beverages except water HS—12 fl. oz. for milk and juice; 20 fl. oz. portions of calorie-free, flavored water (with or without carbonation) and other beverages that are labeled to contain <5 calories/8 fl. oz. or ≤ 10 calories/20 fl. oz.; 12 fl. oz. other beverages ≤ 40 calories/8 fl. oz. or ≤ 60 calories/12 fl. oz.</p>
4	State requires compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for beverages sold at school without specifying actual standards.
3	<p>State requires compliance with the following Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for beverages sold at school, without limiting serving sizes.</p> <p>Smart Snacks requires that beverages be limited to the following in elementary and middle schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plain water (with or without carbonation but no flavorings) ● Fat free or low fat unflavored milk ● Fat free flavored milk ● 100% juice ● 100% juice diluted with water <p>High Schools may additionally sell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Calorie-free, flavored water (with or without carbonation); and other beverages

	<p>containing < 5 calories/8 fl. oz. (or ≤ 10 calories/20 fl. oz.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beverages with ≤ 40 calories/8 fl. oz. or ≤ 60 calories/12 fl. oz.
2	State requires some nutrition standards that meet or exceed Smart Snacks requirements with specified restrictions on water <u>or</u> milk fat <u>or</u> juice <u>or</u> serving size <u>or</u> other beverages.
1	State recommends compliance with Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11 requirements for beverages sold at school.
0	No provision related to Smart Snacks/Federal Rule/ 7 CFR 210.11.
Tracking Variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Smart Snacks Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies</p> <p>“0” if it does not apply</p> <p>“999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement Factor</u> (ES-<i>bevfundnoexemptes</i>; MS-<i>bevfundnoexemptms</i>; HS-<i>bevfundnoexempths</i>): Applies if policy allows for 0 exempt fundraisers each year</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting Factor</u> (ES-<i>bevfundexemptes</i>; MS-<i>bevfundexemptms</i>; HS-<i>bevfundexempths</i>): Applies if policy allows for a certain number of exempt fundraisers each year</p>

Coordinated School Health

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels. *new 2016 data

Variable name in data set: ES Level- *WSCCES*, MS Level-*WSCCMS*, HS Level- *WSCCHS*

Score	Description: The coordinated school health score reflects the degree to which state law addresses the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model developed by the Center for Disease Control ¹⁷ and Prevention's at the ES, MS, HS grade level.
3	State institutionalizes the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Model as a framework for coordinated school health.
2	State includes language to institutionalize a coordinated school health model, but not WSCC.
1	State recommends utilizing either a coordinated school health model or the WSCC Model.
0	No provision related to coordinated school health.
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Nutrition Education Requirement policies, and are coded as:</p> <p>“1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor:</u> (<i>wsccdist</i>) Applies if state only recommends that districts use or incorporate the materials that the state develops/adopts</p>

¹⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child. 2015. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/wsc/index.htm>

Unpaid School Meal Charges

Note: The italicized text below corresponds to the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. The scoring criteria for this policy are identical at Elementary (ES), Middle (MS), and High (HS) School levels. *new 2019 data

Variable name in data set: UNPAIDMEALS

Score	Description: The unpaid school meals charges score reflects the degree to which state law addresses how to handle unpaid school meal debt in an effort to reduce identification and stigma.
3	State law requires that students with unpaid meal debt be served a meal and requires both of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overt identification/shaming • No alternative meals
2	State law requires that students with unpaid meal debt be served a meal and may mention 1 of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overt identification/shaming • No alternative meals
1	State law recommends that efforts be made to reduce stigma related to unpaid school meal charges without including specifics or without ensuring that the student be fed.
0	No provision related to unpaid school meal charges
Tracking variables	<p>Description: These are features in the codified law that may enhance or inhibit implementation of Nutrition Education Requirement policies, and are coded as: “1” in data set if the factor applies “0” if it does not apply “999” if it was not scored for that particular year</p> <p><u>Potential inhibiting factor:</u> (<i>stigma</i>) Applies if state specifically allows for an alternative meal or restricts access to food/beverages after a certain number of days</p> <p><u>Potential enhancement factor:</u> (<i>application</i>) Applies if state discusses helping a family with unpaid meal debt certify eligibility or otherwise apply for FRPL</p>

School Vaccinations

Note: The italicized text in parenthesis provides the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: (VACCINEEXEMPT) NEW 2020*

Score	Description: The school vaccination variable measures the extent to which students are allowed to be exempt from state-mandated vaccination requirements.
3	State law includes vaccination mandates and allows no exemptions (outside of medical exemptions)
2	State law includes vaccination mandates but allows for religious exemptions (may also include medical exemptions)
1	State law includes vaccination mandates but allows for religious and/or personal exemptions (may also include medical exemptions)
0	No mention of vaccination mandates or exemptions in state law
Enhancing Factor	<u>There are no enhancement factors for this variable.</u>

Healthy School Meals for All Introduction and Definitions

During the COVID-19 pandemic, USDA waivers allowed for schools to serve breakfast and lunch for free to all students as part of the Seamless Summer Option. When those waivers expired in June 2022, states started to pass laws that promoted and at times required, district participation in the Community Eligibility Provision.

Community Eligibility Provision: a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP final rules changed on September 26, 2023, to expand access by lowering the minimum ISP: [CEP Final Rule Summary | Food and Nutrition Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

Direct certification: determining a child is eligible for free meals or free milk, as applicable, based on documentation obtained directly from the appropriate State or local agency or individuals authorized to certify that the child is a member of a household receiving assistance under SNAP; is a member of a household receiving assistance under FDPIR or under the TANF program; a Foster child, a Homeless child, a Migrant child, a Head Start child and a Runaway child.

Identified students: students who are certified for free meals without a household application

Identified Student Percentage (ISP): calculated by dividing the total number of identified students by the total number of enrolled students

The variables that follow were first scored as part of the 2021 CLASS dataset.

Healthy Meals for All

Note: The italicized text in parenthesis provides the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: (*HEALTHYMEALS*)

Score	Description: The healthy meals for all variable measures the extent to which students are provided access to free lunch with additional reimbursement from the state.
6	State law requires free, universal lunch for <u>all students</u> which may be accomplished through required participation in CEP or through other universal meal programs.
5	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal lunch based on Identified Student Percentage of 25%
4	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal lunch based on Identified Student Percentage of 40%
3	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal lunch based on Identified Student Percentage that exceeds 40%
2	State law requires free, universal lunch for students who <i>qualify</i> for free and reduced-price meals.
1	State law recommends strategies to reduce the burden of school lunch cost including recommending CEP or universal meals, creating opportunities for grant programs or district initiatives.
0	No mention of reducing the cost of lunch in state law
Enhancing and Inhibiting Factors	<p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>directcert</i>)</u>: Applies if state law encourages direct certification for meal programs</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>noncompliance</i>)</u>: Applies if state law requires CEP and districts/schools to report noncompliance with any state CEP mandate</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>nonimplementation</i>)</u>: Applies if state law requires a report if a district has chosen not to implement CEP (and there is no mandate to do so)</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>reimbursement</i>)</u>: Applies if state law provides some additional reimbursement for expanded access to meals—whether or not CEP is otherwise addressed</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>CEPfeasibility</i>)</u>: Applies if state law allows for a district or school to qualify for a waiver from CEP eligibility based on feasibility, financial viability or other factors</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>temporary</i>)</u>: Applies if state law makes expanded access to meals only temporary (e.g. in a budget bill or for certain SY)</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>federalfundingcontingent</i>)</u>: Applies if state law provisions are</p>

	<p>contingent on federal reimbursement for meals</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>statefundingcontingent</i>)</u>: Applies if state law makes expanded access to meals contingent on state funding</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>ESspecific; MSspecific; HSspecific</i>)</u>: Applies if state law applies only at the elementary, middle, or high school level; respectively.</p>
--	---

School Breakfast for All

Note: The italicized text in parenthesis provides the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set. S

Variable name in data set: (*BFAST*)

Score	Description: The School Breakfast for All variable measures the extent to which students are provided access to breakfast with additional reimbursement from the state.
6	State law requires free, universal breakfast for all students which may be accomplished through required participation in CEP or through other universal meal programs.
5	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal breakfast based on Identified Student Percentage of 25%
4	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal breakfast based on Identified Student Percentage of 40%
3	State law requires districts to elect CEP or implement universal breakfast based on Identified Student Percentage that exceeds 40%
2	State law requires free, universal breakfast for students who <i>qualify</i> for free and reduced-price meals.
1	State law recommends strategies to reduce the burden of school breakfast cost including recommending CEP or universal meals, creating opportunities for grant programs or district initiatives.
0	No mention of school breakfast in state law
Enhancing Factor	<p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>bfastnoncompliance</i>)</u>: Applies if state requires districts/schools to report noncompliance with any state CEP mandate</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>bfastnonimplementation</i>)</u>: Applies if state law requires a report if a district has chosen not to implement CEP (and there is no mandate to do so)</p> <p><u>Potential Enhancement factor (<i>bfastreimbursement</i>)</u>: Applies if state law provides some additional reimbursement for expanded access to breakfast—whether or not CEP is otherwise addressed</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>bfastfeasibility</i>)</u>: Applies if state allows for a district or school to qualify for a waiver from CEP eligibility based on feasibility, financial viability or other factors</p>

	<p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>bfasttemporary</i>)</u>: Applies if state law makes expanded access to meals only temporary</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>bfastfederalfundingcontingent</i>)</u>: Applies if state law is contingent on federal reimbursement for meals</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>bfaststatefundingcontingent</i>)</u>: Applies if state law makes expanded access to meals contingent on state funding</p> <p><u>Potential Inhibiting factor (<i>bfastESspecific</i>; <i>bfastMSspecific</i>; <i>bfastHSspecific</i>)</u>: Applies if state law applies only at the elementary, middle, or high school level; respectively.</p>
--	--

Cross-reference: BFASTstrategies.

School Breakfast Strategies

Note: The italicized text in parenthesis provides the variable names in the C.L.A.S.S. Data Set.

Variable name in data set: (BFASTstrategies)

Score	Description: The School Breakfast Strategies Provision applies if state law addresses specific strategies to serve breakfast
2	State law requires strategies that work to increase participation in school breakfast (e.g. breakfast after the bell, grab and go, bus scheduling, etc.)
1	State law recommends strategies that work to increase participation in school breakfast
0	Not addressed
Enhancing Factor	None for this variable

Appendix: Coding decision rules

COMPETITIVE FOOD CODING

- A la carte general: Alternatives to the term a la carte appear in policies as “competitive food,” “competing food service,” “extra sales,” “extra items,” “individual items.” For purposes of coding these variables, these items are food and beverage sold or served during meal times in cafeterias/food service areas outside regulated Federal meal programs, which must meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (i.e., the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).
- If state policy sets out standards for all competitive food items without specifying the category (e.g., there is no separation for vended items versus school stores versus canteens versus fundraisers), the policy should still receive a score in 4 areas Vending Machines-non entrée foods/snacks only; Vending Machines – beverages only; School stores, canteens, and snack bars – foods only, and School stores, canteens, and snack bars – beverages only).
 - If the policy specifically identifies fundraisers as an area in which the standards apply, then the policy is scored using the Fundraiser Non-entree: Foods/Snacks Requirements and Fundraisers Beverages Requirements in addition to the 4 areas listed above.
- FDA guidance on label statements defines whole grains as “cereal grains that consist of the intact, ground, cracked or flaked caryopsis, whose principal anatomical components--the starchy endosperm, germ, and bran--are present in the same relative proportions as they exist in the intact caryopsis--should be considered a whole grain food.”
- Percentage allowance. If a policy specifies that 50% or more (but less than 100%) of food/beverage items offered must meet defined “healthy” criteria, a score of (1) is awarded. If the percent is less than 50%, no score is awarded. For example: If a provision states that 20% of the food/beverage items offered must meet the “healthy” criteria specified in the provision, that state would receive a (0). If the provision stated that 75% of the food/beverage items offered must meet the “healthy” criteria specified in the provision, that state would receive a (1).
 - Potential inhibiting factor: If a policy allows for between 50% and 100% of items offered must be ‘healthy’ then that policy will be scored as a +1 and will trigger this tracking variable, but if the policy allows for any percentage below 50% ‘healthy’ foods/beverages then that state receives no credit.
- Dairy fat limits. All dairy (including cheese and yogurt) must be designated as low-fat (1%) or non-fat (skim) to receive a +6. Reduced fat (2%) will not be accepted as a +6. These standards also apply to dairy substitutes such as soy milk/cheese.
- Combination items. Combination items, like products that contain both whole grains and fruit, should be allowed and scored as part of the 6 point category.
- For % calories from fat (total grams and saturated fat) when only grams are given:
 1. Multiply the fat grams by 9 to get the total calories provided by fat
 2. Divide the total calories provided by fat by the maximum calories allowed in the food portion to get the % calories of fat in the food
- For % calories from sugar when only grams are given:
 1. Multiply the sugar grams by 4 to get the total calories provided by sugar

2. Divide the total calories provided by sugar by the maximum calories allowed in the food portion to get the % calories of sugar in the food
- Portion size enhancement factor. Portion size is defined either by a calorie restriction or a volume or weight restriction, for example either 200 calories, or 1 oz.
 - Based on the Food and Drug Administration ruling, .5g of trans fat will be considered 0 grams of trans fat for coding purposes.
 - States that regulate only limits on trans-fat are coded as +4, regardless of whether saturated fats are also limited
 - States restricting the sale of FMNVs receive +3.
 - If a state requires compliance with Smart Snacks, whether or not the standards are defined in the policy itself or incorporated by reference, the following coding was applied from the requirements established in the federal rule:
 - ALASNAES; ALASNAMS; ALASANHS=4
 - snapores; snaporms; snaporhs=1
 - ENTREEES; ENTREEMS; ENTREEHS=4
 - entpores; entporms; entporhs=1
 - VEND_ES; VEND_MS; VEND_HS=4
 - vendpores; vendporms; vendporhs=1
 - VENUE_ES; VENUE_MS; VENUE_HS=4
 - venupores; venuporms; venuporhs=1
 - FUND_ES; FUND_MS; FUND_HS=4
 - fundpores; fundporms; fundporhs=1

COMPETITIVE BEVERAGE CODING

- Percentage allowance. If a policy specifies that 50% or more of food/beverage items offered must meet defined “healthy” criteria, a score of (1) is awarded. If the percent is less than 50%, no score is awarded. For example: If a provision states that 20% of the food/beverage items offered must meet the “healthy” criteria specified in the provision, that state would receive a (0). If the provision stated that 75% of the food/beverage items offered must meet the “healthy” criteria specified in the provision, that state would receive a (1).
 - Potential inhibiting factor: If a policy allows for between 50% and 100% of items offered must be ‘healthy’ then that policy will be scored as a +1 and will trigger this tracking variable, but if the policy allows for any percentage below 50% ‘healthy’ foods/beverages then that state receives no credit.
- Dairy fat limits. All dairy (including cheese and yogurt) must be designated as low-fat (1%) or non-fat (skim) to receive a +6 or +5. Reduced fat (2%) will not be accepted as a +6 or +5. These standards also apply to dairy substitutes such as soy milk/cheese.
- Milk. Milk does not qualify as a low-calorie beverage.
- Portion size enhancement factor. Portion size is defined either by a calorie restriction or a volume or weight restriction, for example either 200 calories, or 1 oz.
- Adding water with no added sweeteners to 100% juice will still be coded as 100% juice (e.g. Ohio Senate Bill 210 (2010))
- Caffeine: The Institute of Medicine’s “Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools: Leading the Way toward Healthier Youth” included caffeine in the standards for

competitive beverages sold in schools. With the expansion of C.L.A.S.S. variables, we decided to make the beverages variables more complete and include caffeine with the current coding scheme.

- Carbonated beverages/soda/soft drinks are not enough; need to specifically mention caffeine. (Added July 20, 2012)
- If a la carte beverages, vending beverages, school store beverages and fundraising beverages are different, and the highest score includes caffeine, then coded caffeine as the highest of these (for expansion only; in the future, it will be incorporated into the old coding schemes).
- Unless otherwise specified, Caffeine will receive the highest score of all the competitive beverage variables
- States restricting the sale of FMNVs receive +3.
- If a state requires compliance with Smart Snacks, whether or not the standards are defined in the policy itself or incorporated by reference, the following coding was applied from the requirements established in the federal rule:
 - ALABEVES=5; ALABEVMS=5; ALABEVHS=4 (caffeine is allowed)
 - alabevpores; alabevporms; alabevporhs=1
 - BEVENDES=5; BEVENDMS=5; BEVENDHS=4 (caffeine is allowed)
 - bevendpores; bevendporms; bevendporhs=1
 - BEVENUES=5; BEVENUMS=5; BEVENUHS=4 (caffeine is allowed)
 - bevenupores; bevenuporms; bevenuporhs=1
 - BEVFUNDES=5; BEVFUNDMS=5; BEVFUNDHS=4 (caffeine is allowed)
 - bevfundpores; bevfundporms; bevfundporhs=1

SMART SNACKS CODING

- This variable was added beginning with the C.L.A.S.S. 2014 data set. Please note that the Smart Snacks Food Requirement and Smart Snacks Beverage Requirement variables are coded in addition to the IOM related competitive food and beverages variables included in the 2003-2014 C.L.A.S.S. data sets. The new variables will be coded only if Smart Snacks or its nutrient standards are specifically addressed.
- Level 2 coding includes situations where not all venues are regulated for the Smart Snacks requirements. If vending machines, school stores, a la carte, entrees, and fundraisers did not *all* meet Smart Snacks, a level 5 coding would not be given.
- If a policy only includes old language regulating FMNVs, no coding is applied here.
- If a policy restricted caffeine in ES/MS but did not limit the types of water/milk/juice, it was given level 2 coding.
- A few states have adopted fundraiser exemption policies without requiring compliance with Smart Snacks nutrition standards (ex. MI, TX, VA). In those cases, the parent variable receives a score of 0 but the fundraiser exemption inhibiting factor is still coded in order to track those policies.

SCHOOL MEAL ENVIRONMENT

- According to federal regulations, schools that participate in the USDA National School Lunch Program must serve lunch between 10:00am and 2:00pm. Individual schools/school districts, not USDA, determine how much time to give students for lunch.

USDA's Changing the Scene document recommends 20 minutes for lunch – after being served, and 10 minutes for breakfast – after being served.

- Policies that require “adequate” lunch periods simply repeat the federal requirement and are not applicable.
- Envirotime: State must specify both a time period for breakfast and a time period for lunch.

FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

- State policy requiring a “qualified” food service director without specifics to education is coded as the lowest requirement (+2). Policy that require food-related training without reference to specific degree (masters, bachelors, HS/GED), will default to HS/GED +2
- If graduate education is required, then “+4” would be assigned.
- If a bachelor's degree is required, but not in a food-related field, then the policy would be coded as having a minor in a food-related field.
- If state specifies different levels of education/certification for Food Service Director based on size of the school/school district, therefore not applying the same regulation to the entire state, code for the lowest level required.
- Training: Food related training must include nutrition. Food safety or food handling does not qualify as food related training.
- Professional development/training must be specific to food service directors, not simply “food service staff” or “food service personnel.”

WELLNESS COUNCILS

- By July 1, 2006, school districts that participate in the National School Lunch Program must have local wellness policies [P.L. 108-265 sec. 204]. The new law does not say what the details of the local policy should be, but does require that policies be adopted across four areas: nutrition education goals, physical activity goals, nutrition standards, and other school-based activities. The law states that parents, students, and others should be involved and that implementation should be measured. In supporting materials, USDA suggests that schools work with existing “teams” already in place.
- If any state regulatory body must report, regarding the progress of district wellness policies, to the state legislature that state will receive credit for: Potential Enhancement Factor: Applies if state reviews/assesses local committee actions and makes recommendations. Example: AR ST § 20-7-135.

NUTRITION EDUCATION

- Nutrition education must be a separate credit-bearing course or a *specific* sub-component of health education requirement. Home economics, vocational education, and family/consumer sciences are not applicable.
- If there is no grade range specified, then all grade ranges are applicable.

MARKETING

- Credit is given for restrictions on commercial advertising/promotion that include foods of low-nutritive value as a subset. For example, a policy that prohibits commercial advertisements on instructional materials unless local school boards meet state-mandates procedures, descriptive terms for food/beverages to be promoted must be consistent and

based on specified definitions (e.g., state must promote “healthy foods” is insufficient without specifics which conform to US Dietary Guidelines)

- To get a score of 5, the law must include some mention of giving away of food and beverages. If this is not present, a score of 4 will be provided.

BODY MASS INDEX SCREENING

- Policies that require the collection of student height and weight, without specifically referring to “BMI,” are relevant for this topic area and will be rated accordingly.
- Policies that require or recommend BMI screening, but do not contain provisions related to purpose, outcomes, parental notification, or some other follow-up are coded as a (0) *with the inhibiting factor* bmi_fwup.
- Policies that require health care providers outside the school system to perform BMI screening, but also include the Department of Education or the school districts in the screening and data collection process (see IL and NY), are relevant and will be rated accordingly
- Policies that require Fitnessgram testing are coded as (0) *with the inhibiting factor* bmi_fwup=1 unless reporting results are specified

FARM TO SCHOOL

- The term ‘farm to school’ is generally understood to include efforts that connect schools with local or regional producers in order to serve local or regionally produced foods in school cafeterias. In addition to procurement activities, food, agriculture and nutrition-based educational efforts that span a host of hands-on experiential activities, such as school gardens, field trips to local farms, and cooking classes, are also included in the concept of farm to school. Standards-based curriculum centered on food, agriculture, and/or nutrition often integrates as well. Themes present in both the literature and in the actual laws and regulations regarding Farm to School programs include: 1. Technical Assistance for leadership development and facilitate farmer participation; 2. Nutrition education for students; 3. Dedicated funding for the program; and 4. Define “local/regional” produced used in the program. These factors highlight appropriate state-level policy interventions that may be applied when designing a Farm to School program. These factors are captured in total in a score of 4 on the newly created coding instrument.
- This variable captures the establishment of a program. Provisions that address the criteria needed for a score of 3 or 4 on the Farm to School scale, but do not establish a program are not included in the dataset (example: Virginia).
- If a program requires any/all aspects of a typical Farm to School program (i.e. TA, education etc.), but it is not named “Farm to School”, it will be included in this dataset.
- If the provision states that the produce used for the Farm to School program must be grown in the specific state or surrounding states the state should receive credit for defining “local produce”.
- Outreach is included as a TA component of Farm to School
- Dedicated funding is defined as: provisions that require a permanent state funding source (i.e. grants).
- Nutrition education is defined as any education directed towards students, for example about farms or nutrition.

- Technical assistance from the state may include education to teachers, food service workers, and farmers regarding the farm to school program.
- The provision does not need to specifically be named Farm to School, but must contain specified components of a Farm to School program.
- In order to receive higher than a score of 2, the actual elements of the Farm to School Program must also be required, and not simply encouraged/recommended
- *School Garden v. Farm to School Program*
 - The school garden enhancement factor is meant to capture any aspects of a school garden program.
 - If the garden program encompasses some codified aspects of a typical Farm to School program, the provisions should be scored as the Farm to School variable (see District of Columbia as example).
 - To say “gardens” are a stand-alone program means that they are not simply listed as an educational tool as part of the broader farm to school program. If there is a distinct program, whether or not farm to school is addressed as well, this enhancement factor gets coded.
- *Local Procurement Program v. Farm to School Program*
 - Local procurement programs that do not address other aspects of a typical Farm to School program (i.e. TA, education etc.) are not included in this dataset.
 - Provisions that address only local procurement programs will not be included in this coding system.

POTABLE WATER

- Section 203 of the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act amends section 9(a) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. (1758(a)) by requiring that schools participating in the NSLP make potable water available to children at no charge in the place where lunch meals are served during the meal service. This part of the law is to be implemented January 2013. This scale, was created in 2012, but will include the upcoming changes due to occur in 2013, as to make coding consistent across years. Issues affecting potable water consumption by students include access, quality, infrastructure, and funding. This scoring system focuses on access (e.g. time, number and location of access points, ability to utilize access points).
- Provisions that require potable water in schools, without specifically saying that the water may be available in food service areas for drinking, will not be coded.
- Water (typically bottled water), if offered for sale, is not included in this dataset.

COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH

- If the state Department is required to provide resources, or policies, even if districts only need to consider recommendations, WSCC=2
 - Note: in these cases, the inhibiting factor will be scored as 1.
 - Note: If the state is still in the planning stages (i.e. developing tools, writing a report), it will be coded as WSCC=1 (e.g. CA: CA WEL & INST § 10492.1)
- If state requires district integration of CSHP, or the creation of a Coordinated School Health Council, WSCC=2 (ex. MS, NM, SC)

- If state simply references WSCC without working to institutionalize it, it will not be coded (ex. VT)
- States that institutionalize WSCC through HE standards are coded based on whether WSCC applies more generally throughout the school (ex. WA=3) or specifically in HE (ex. DC=1).

UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

- The inhibiting factor is designed to account for a policy that stops supporting students after a certain number of days. (Ex. Hawaii Revised Statutes §302A-404, Texas Education Code Sec. 33.908)
 - This also means that a state law can receive the strongest level of coding for UNPAIDMEALS even if the protections only last for a specific amount of time (see MA Stat. 71, 72B)
- Level 1 coding includes state laws in which stigma is addressed, but it's not clear that the student must continue to be fed.
- For the Potential enhancement factor (application), suggesting that the parent apply for FRPL, without offering assistance, is not enough. But, if the district must try to directly certify student's eligibility, that will be scored as 1.

SCHOOL VACCINATIONS

- Laws that allow for “individually” held beliefs will be coded as personal exemptions
- Some states have chosen to strengthen laws over time by eliminating religious and/or personal exemptions. In those situations, some students have been grandfathered in and old exemptions allowed to remain (see e.g. ME CMR 05-071-126 and CT Conn Stat. 10-204a). This variable will measure the general requirements for new students and will not be downgraded based on the transition period.

HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS AND HEALTHY SCHOOL BREAKFAST FOR ALL

- States that receive a score of 3-5 require universal access to school *lunch in the districts that qualify and apply for CEP*. Level 6 captures universal meals for all students across the state. For this variable, there may be enhancement factors coded without an overall score for *HEALTHYMEALS* to track progress over time.
- If state law simply refers to “meals” or “CEP,” without defining further, both breakfast and lunch variables will be coded.
- Note on grade-specific variables: these variables are used to denote if something different is happening based on certain grade levels. Always check to ensure which policy is operating at the specific grade level, based on the given citation.
- The universal breakfast efforts coded here may use one or more strategies to get breakfast in the hands of students. See BFASTstrategies for those states that recommend or require certain practices.
- If a state simply mentions or requires the establishment of the School Breakfast Program (SBP) without addressing any aspect of universal or free breakfast, it's not coded here.

- Examples:

- Level 1 code: WV: (a) Each county board of education shall establish and operate school nutrition programs under which, at a minimum, a nutritious breakfast and lunch are made effectively available to all students enrolled in the schools of the county in accordance with the State Board of Education standards. The standards *shall include guidelines for determining the eligibility of students for paid, free and reduced meals. The standards shall also establish procedures and guidelines for the Feed to Achieve initiative to allow for the provision of healthy, nutritious meals to all elementary school students, without cost to students, where schools find it practical to do so.*
- Level 2 code: DC: (b) Public schools, public charter schools, and participating private schools shall: Not charge students for meals if the students qualify for reduced-price meals;
 - Note: Under USDA rules, 130% is free meals, 130% and 185% is reduced price. Some states have expanded free meals to those students who reach 200% FPL. Those provisions do not reach the level 3 code and so are coded as =2 (see, e.g., CT)
- Level 3 code: MA: (1) A school district or individual school with an identified student percentage that is not less than 60 per cent shall elect and implement the federal community eligibility provision or provision 2 to provide universal free school breakfast and lunch to all students.
- Level 4 code: VA: B. Each school board that governs a local school division that contains any public elementary or secondary school that has a minimum identified student percentage of 40 percent in the prior school year and is consequently eligible to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) shall apply to FNS to participate in CEP for each such school, pursuant to FNS guidelines, by submitting (i) identified student data to FNS by April 1, unless an extension is in effect and (ii) its completed application to FNS by June 30, unless an extension is in effect.
- Level 5 code: WA: (1)(a) Except as provided otherwise by this section, each public school that has an identified student percentage of at least 40 percent, *or an identified student percentage of less than 40 percent if authorized by federal law*, as determined annually by April 1st, must participate in the United States department of agriculture's community eligibility provision in the subsequent school year and throughout the duration of the community eligibility provision's four-year cycle.
- Level 6 code: ME: I. A public school that serves lunch shall provide a student who is ineligible for free or reduced-price meals under paragraph A a meal that meets the requirements of the federal National School Lunch Program set forth in 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 (2019) at no cost to the student. The State shall provide to the public school funding equal to the difference between the federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the full price of the lunch for each student ineligible for a free or reduced-price lunch and receiving lunch.

- Example of *directcert*: MA: The department shall assist school districts with improving the direct certification process and reducing administrative burdens on school districts.
- Example of *noncompliance*: SC: If a district is unable to participate, the local board of trustees shall adopt a resolution stating that it is unable to participate in CEP and demonstrate the reasons why
- Example of *nonimplementation*: CT: Not later than December 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, any local or regional board of education that participates in the National School Lunch Program, in which at least one school under the jurisdiction of such board qualifies for the maximum federal reimbursement for all school meals served under the federal Community Eligibility Provision, but does not implement the Community Eligibility Provision, *shall submit a report to the Department of Education that notifies the department that such board is not implementing the Community Eligibility Provision and the reasons for why such board is not implementing the Community Eligibility Provision*. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a description of the specific impediments to implementing the Community Eligibility Provision, any actions that are needed to remove those impediments and a plan for implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision during the following school year, if possible.
- Example of *CEPfeasibility*: VA: D. The Superintendent for Public Instruction shall issue a waiver to the requirement set forth in subsection B in the sole circumstance *that an evaluation of a school or group of schools that is eligible to participate in CEP determines that participation in CEP is not financially viable to such school or group of schools*. The Department of Education shall develop a process and criteria for considering such waivers, including a process and criteria for conducting such CEP evaluations.
- Example of *temporary*: VT: this act is repealed on July 1, 2023
- Example of *federalfundingcontingent*: WA: (8) The requirements in this section shall lapse if the federal reimbursement for any school breakfasts, lunches, or summer food service programs is eliminated.
- Example of *statefundingcontingent*: IL: Subject to appropriation, a participating school board shall receive reimbursement for the meals set forth in subsection (c) of this Section. . . If at any time the appropriation is insufficient to cover all school boards interested in participating in the Healthy School Meals for All program, the State Board of Education shall communicate the implications of the insufficient appropriation with eligible schools in a timely manner to allow schools sufficient time to make informed decisions about their food service administration.
- Example of *reimbursement*: MI: (a) Prescribe a uniform reporting system for the collection, compilation, and analysis of data relative to the administration of this section and section 1272a. 1 (b) Pay a school district for each free meal served pursuant to section 1272b(c) 2 an amount calculated by subtracting the federal reimbursement rate for a free meal from the actual cost of the meal, but not to exceed 5 cents per meal. (c) Pay a school district for each reduced price meal served pursuant to section 1272b(c) an amount calculated by subtracting the sum

of the federal reimbursement rate for a reduced price meal and the fee charged from the actual average cost of the meal, but not to exceed 2 cents per meal.

BREAKFAST STRATEGIES

- The strategies coded here could be additive to universal breakfast program. This variable is designed to capture whether actual named strategies are provided to get breakfast in the hands of students. See BFAST for those states that are using a universal breakfast model.
- This variable assumes that you have some breakfast program established. The act of setting up SBP is not a strategy captured here.
- Examples:
- Level 1 code: CO: (c) Each public school, school district, or board of cooperative services may determine the breakfast serving model that best suits its students. Serving models may include, but need not be limited to, breakfast in the classroom, grab and go breakfast, or a breakfast after first period. The breakfast shall be served at a time to be determined by the public school or school district, so long as it occurs after the first bell. A school that has seventy percent or more students receiving free or reduced lunch under the school lunch program and that can demonstrate that at least ninety percent of its students take bus transportation to school may opt to offer its breakfast program on the bus rather than on school grounds. Such a school is required to offer breakfast after the bell to any student who arrives late or arrives by another mode of transportation.
- Level 2 code: KY: (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 158.060(3) and the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, a school district shall arrange bus schedules so that all buses arrive in sufficient time to provide breakfast prior to the beginning of the student attendance day. In the event of an unforeseen bus delay, the administrator of a school that participates in the Federal School Breakfast Program may authorize up to fifteen (15) minutes of the student attendance day if necessary to provide the opportunity for children to eat breakfast not to exceed eight (8) times during the school year within a school building.