



Staying on Track: Questions & Answers

Answers to the questions asked in HNS' **January 2026 Staying on Track webinar**.

Please note, operators are responsible for remaining up-to-date on program guidance/regulations. The following answers reflect the information available at the time of the live webinar and may be subject to change.

JANUARY 2026 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Where do we find the new CNP MyFoods system?

A: The new CNP MyFoods system is deployed and can be accessed via ADEConnect. Operators will be notified by ADE HNS via HNS Communications with system updates. Additionally, please join us for the Introduction to CNP MyFoods Webinar on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, from 1:30-2:30 pm for more information. [Click here to register](#).

Q: Does HB 2164 apply to meals that are given to students for free?

A: Yes. House Bill 2164 (HB 2164), the Arizona Healthy Schools Act, prohibits public schools participating in federally funded or assisted meal programs from **servicing**, selling, or allowing a third party to sell ultra-processed food on the school campus during the regular school day. Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must not serve foods or beverages that contain the 11 specified food additives in breakfasts, lunches, vending machines, snack bars, and school stores during the regular school day. This includes meals served to students at no cost.

Q: Is the HB 2164 attestation yet available?

A: No. ADE HNS Communications will alert operators when it is available at the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

Q: Is there a date LEAs need to self-certify by?

A: The new law takes effect at the start of the 2026-2027 school year. School Administrators should aim to comply and certify by the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

Q: Who in a LEA will be responsible for submitting the attestation of compliance with HB2164?

A: The individual responsible for submitting the attestation is a business decision for the LEA. ADE does not have specific parameters regarding who needs to submit the attestation. LEAs should keep in mind that this is a campus-wide requirement and consider who is responsible for campus-wide compliance with laws and policies.

Q: Is the catering requirement for only students, or does it also apply to adult meals?

A: A.R.S. 15-242.01 does not apply to meals catered specifically for adults.

Q: If fundraisers are sold during the school day but distributed after school hours, do they still have to meet Smart Snack requirements?

A: Yes. Fundraisers must adhere to the Smart Snacks requirement if they are sold or served during the school day.

Q: If a parent brings in food for the class (i.e., class party), does the house bill apply? Or can a parent only bring in food for their child? What about food rewards for perfect attendance, test scores, and behavior?

A: A.R.S. 15-242.01 prohibits the service or sale of ultra-processed foods at any point of the school day. This includes student celebrations, birthday parties, prizes/incentives, and classroom snacks. A.R.S. 15-242.01 does not prevent a student's parent or guardian from providing ultra-processed food to the student during the regular school day.

JANUARY 2026

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Can ADE provide just the Arizona Healthy Schools Act slides and recording from Staying on Track (SOT) separately so that we can share with our school leaders?

A: The slides covering the Arizona Healthy Schools Act can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Q: Is ADE going to create any training on the House Bill 2164 (HB 2164)?

A: ADE is providing an in-person session on the Arizona Healthy Schools Act at the AASBO Winter Conference on January 27, 2026. For registration, visit the website at: <https://www.aasbo.org/page/Conferences>. Additionally, ADE HNS will continue to highlight pertinent information about HB 2164, including any new resources, through HNS Communications and in the monthly Staying on Track webinars.

Q: Would classroom snacks provided by parents for all students in the classroom be required to comply with the new law? What about food or beverage-based prizes/incentives provided to students (ie, students can redeem their Bobcat Bucks for a treat)?

A: When the school provides the food or beverage-based prize/incentives for students, they must be compliant with the law, A.R.S. 15-242.01.

Q: Would birthday/holiday treats brought in for classroom parties need to be in compliance with the law?

A: If the treats were being provided by the school, the treats must be compliant with the law, A.R.S. 15-242.01.

Q: Could ADE provide some template language we could add to our Local Wellness Policy (LWP) with the new law?

A: Yes, ADE HNS is updating the Local Wellness Policy Templates to include language surrounding the new law and will announce its availability upon release via HNS Communications. In the meantime, ADE suggests using the language of the law in [A.R.S. 15-242.01](#) when including the requirements in the [Local Wellness Policy](#).

Q: The ultra-processed food slides mentioned that it does not pertain to parents sending banned items for their students. Does ADE recommend a way to intercept these items before they reach the classroom for birthday celebrations, etc.?

A: ADE recommends providing these parameters in the district wellness policy; however, the Arizona Healthy Schools Act is specific to foods and beverages provided by the school and third-party school affiliates.