

After School Program Snack Requirement in ASES, 21st CCLC, and ASSETs Amended Legislative Change Effective January 1, 2014

Effective January 1, 2014, Assembly Bill (AB) 626 (http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bill/asm/ab_0601-0650/ab_626_bill_20131010_chaptered.pdf), which amends the California *Education Code (EC)* Sections 8423, 8482.3, and 8483.3, became law.

As a result of the legislative change:

- *Meals* may be served to students in after school programs in place of or in addition to a snack.
- *Meals* must meet the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) requirements.
- *Meals* are not required to comply with the California nutrition standards stated in *EC* 49430.
- Snacks must continue to meet the California nutrition standards.

Overview of Assembly Bill 626

The goal of AB 626 is to add a meal to the acceptable food options that must be offered to students in after school programs.

- Previously:
 - *EC* Sections 8423, 8482.3, and 8483.3 stated that a healthy snack must be offered to students in all after school programs (ASPs) funded through ASES, 21st CCLC, and ASSETs, and
 - To ensure the snacks are healthy they must meet the California nutrition standards identified in *EC* Sections 49430-49431.7.
 - If snacks are provided through one of the federally reimbursable meal programs (National School Lunch Program or CACFP) they must meet both the federal requirements and the state nutrition standards.
- As of January 1, 2014:
 - The at-risk supper option under the CACFP may be served instead of a snack.
 - If a supper is served it must meet (only) the federal CACFP requirements.
 - If snacks are provided through one of the federally reimbursable meal programs (National School Lunch Program or CACFP) they must meet both the federal requirements and the state nutrition standards.
 - If an ASP serves a snack, the snack must meet the California nutrition standards.

Background

The at-risk supper option under the CACFP resulted with the passage of the federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. At that time, ASPs were provided the option to serve a snack, a meal (supper), or both. The meal was considered a large snack and was expected to conform to the California nutrition standards for snacks.

AB 626 recognizes that a meal that follows the federal nutrition standards for the CACFP will be larger in quantity compared to the snack and provide additional calories and nutrients.

Available Resources on the meals and snacks served in the After School Program

Program handbook concerning the at-risk afterschool meals component of the CACFP:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/atriskhandbook.pdf>.

Information about the California nutrition standards for snacks:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/as/afterschoolnutstan.asp>.

Ten minute webinar on how to apply to serve meals in the after school program:

<http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/pod/how-apply-serve-meals>

Snack and meal-related resources on the California After School Network Web site:

<http://www.afterschoolnetwork.org/nutrition-and-physical-activity>