

A **local school wellness policy (wellness policy)** is a written document that guides a local educational agency or school district's efforts to create supportive school nutrition and physical activity environments. Each local education agency participating in federal Child Nutrition Programs, including the [National School Lunch Program](#) or the [School Breakfast Program](#), is required to develop and implement a wellness policy as established by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, and recently enhanced by the [Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 \(HHFKA\)](#)^[PDF - 325.4 KB]. Wellness policies can be integrated into the [Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child \(WSCC\)](#) model for school health, and can help put into action several provisions of the [Every Student Succeeds Act](#), including Title I and Title IV.

Local School Wellness Policy Requirements:

School districts can develop wellness policies to meet the unique needs of each school under its jurisdiction, but [at a minimum are required to](#)

- Include goals for [nutrition promotion and education](#), [physical activity](#), and other school-based activities that promote students wellness. In developing these goals, local educational agencies must review and consider evidence-based strategies.
- Include nutrition guidelines for all foods sold on each school campus during the school day that are consistent with federal regulations for [school meals](#) and [Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards](#).
- Include policies for foods and beverages made available to students (e.g., in [classroom parties](#), classroom snacks brought by parents, other foods given as incentives).
- Include policies for [food and beverage marketing](#) that allow marketing and advertising of only those foods and beverages that meet the [Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards](#).
- Permit [parents](#), students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to participate in the development, implementation, and update of the local school wellness policy.
- Identify one or more school districts or school officials who have the authority and responsibility to ensure each school complies with the policy.
- Inform and update the public (including parents, students, and others in the community) about the local school wellness policy on an annual basis.
- At least once every three years, measure the extent to which schools are in compliance with the local school wellness policy, the extent to which the local education agency's local wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies, and the progress made in attaining the goals of the local wellness policy, and make this assessment available to the public.
- Comply with all of these requirements by June 30, 2017.