



# Windham Public Schools

## Fundraiser FAQs

Windham Public Schools implements Healthy Food Certification in all Windham Schools. As such, there are federal and state laws that apply to all fundraising activities conducted on school premises by school-related organizations and outside organizations not affiliated with the school. Failure to abide by these laws may result in consequences for Windham Public Schools. Below are some frequently asked questions about school fundraisers:

### **What qualifies as a fundraiser?**

Fundraisers are any activity during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons, tokens, or similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities.

### **What can I fundraise?**

All foods and beverages sold in healthy food certification schools must comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) and state statutes. This includes homemade foods that are part of a bake sale. Please contact the Food Service Director at 860-465-2608 or [evolle@windham.k12.ct.us](mailto:evolle@windham.k12.ct.us) to see if your food or beverage item is allowed. Selling gift cards, coupons, tickets, or other similar items that can be *exchanged* for foods/beverages is the same as selling food/beverages.

The Connecticut State Department of Education and the Windham Public Schools strongly encourage schools to promote consistent health messages to students by conducting non-food fundraisers.

### **Where can I fundraise?**

Foods that do not comply with the CNS can only be sold after the school day or on the weekend. The “school day” is defined at the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. Fundraiser order forms may be distributed in schools during the school day for students to fundraise off school premises. However, fundraiser order forms and money cannot be returned to the school and food/beverage items cannot be picked up at the school during the school day. The district’s pick-up policy must be clearly indicated on the school’s fundraising flier and any written communication regarding the fundraiser. The CNS and state statutes do not apply to fundraising activities that take place off school premises.

### **If the fundraising regulations are not followed, how will it affect Windham Public Schools?**

If a school-related organization or outside organization not affiliated with the school sells foods/beverages that do not meet the CNS standards or state statutes the district may lose money provided by the state for its food service program and lose the Healthy Food Certification. This would affect the district’s ability to provide students with free breakfast and lunch, a service needed by many students.