

Arizona Healthy Schools Act

Arizona Healthy Schools Act or House Bill 2164, prohibits public schools participating in federally funded meal programs from serving or selling ultra-processed foods containing certain additives and dyes during the school day.

Below is a brief FAQ to help answer some common questions.

What is the Arizona Healthy Schools Act (HB 2164)?

The Arizona Healthy Schools Act is a state law that establishes restrictions on certain foods and beverages that may be sold, served, or provided to students during the regular school day in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program.

When does the law take effect?

The requirements begin July 1, 2026.

What foods are affected?

The law applies to foods and beverages containing certain additives and artificial colorings identified in the legislation, including:

- Red 40
- Red 3
- Yellow 5
- Yellow 6
- Blue 1
- Blue 2
- Green 3
- Titanium dioxide
- Brominated vegetable oil
- Potassium bromates
- Propylparaben

Does this affect school meals?

No. School meals served through the cafeteria will continue to be available and compliant with state and federal nutrition requirements.

What is defined as a school day?

A school day, for the applicability of this law, is defined as midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the instructional day.

Will students still have access to snacks and beverages at school?

Yes. Schools may continue to offer snacks and beverages that meet the requirements of the Arizona Healthy Schools Act and existing federal nutrition standards.

Can parents still send lunch from home?

Yes. The law does not prohibit parents or guardians from sending food or beverages from home for their own child.

Does this law apply after school?

The Arizona Healthy Schools Act applies during the school day, which is defined as midnight before the instructional day begins until 30 minutes after the end of the instructional day. Schools will review all activities and events to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.