Healthy Vending Options at The Ohio State University

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Will there only be items such as granola and sunflower seeds in the vending machines now?

A: No. There is a variety of satisfying products that are considered healthy as well. These products satisfy a sweet or salty craving and are chosen because they support healthier eating than previous products.

Q: Did this change occur all over campus?

A: Due to the size of campus, we are phasing in the vending change. The changes started in the medical center and are currently taking place on the rest of main campus.

Q: What about beverages? Will there still be non-diet soda sold in vending machines?

A: The vending selection is changing in proportion, with a much higher percentage of non-sugar-added beverages, but all beverages will still be available.

Q: Is Ohio State going in the direction of banning all “non-healthy” foods with a policy similar to tobacco use?

A: No. While we strongly believe in providing a healthy environment for students, staff, and visitors, we believe that a balanced meal plan can include most foods; some in more limited amounts. The health issues around tobacco use are very different than eating.

Q: Why is vending going “healthy”, but I still see less healthy food in restaurants and dining halls?

A: The goal is to provide healthier foods and provide a better balance of choices wherever food items are sold. Vending is an important initial phase.