Standards for Beverage Vending Machines

1. Require all beverages contain 25 calories or less per 8 ounces with the following exception:
   - A maximum of 2 slots/buttons may stock high calorie beverages (more than 25 calories per 8 ounces), such as regular soda, lemonade, sweetened tea and juice. The 2 slot limit applies no matter how many slots are in the machine.
   - Unsweetened 1% and non-fat milk not included in high calorie limit.

2. Require water be stocked in at least 2 slots/buttons per machine.
   - Water should contain 0 calories with no added color, flavor or sweetener of any kind.
   - If drinking water is readily available in the vicinity of the vending machine, unflavored seltzer water may be substituted for the 2 slots of water.

3. Require water and seltzer be placed at eye level, or in the highest selling position. High calorie beverages should be placed farthest from eye level, or in the lowest selling position.

4. Require all high calorie beverages are sold in 12 ounce containers or smaller.

5. Prohibit advertisements of high calorie beverages on vending machines.
   - Promotional material on the front and side panels of the machine can advertise water or beverages with 25 calories or less per 8 ounces.

6. Require calorie information is posted for each beverage, as packaged.
   - Required for City agencies only.

If your facility has programming for children age 18 and under and/or hot beverage vending machines, refer to the Standards for Beverage Vending Machines for guidance at nyc.gov/health and search for Food and Nutrition Standards.

Low Calorie Beverages
Defined as beverages with 25 calories or less per 8 ounces:
- Water
- Plain seltzer
- Flavored seltzer
- Flavored water that meets calorie limit
- Drinks labeled “diet” or “zero”
- Unsweetened teas

High Calorie Beverages
Defined as beverages with more than 25 calories per 8 ounces:
- Regular soda
- Sports drinks
- Flavored waters with added sugars
- Energy drinks
- Lemonade
- Juice drinks
- 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- Sweetened iced tea
- Sweetened coffee drinks

Recommend stock machines with only water, seltzer and other low calorie beverages.

Make the healthier choice the cheaper choice. Set lower prices for water and other low calorie beverages than for high calorie beverages.

For more information, please contact: nycfoodstandards@health.nyc.gov
Example of a Beverage Vending Machine that Meets the Standards

Use this machine as an example of how to stock your beverage vending machine.

- Promotional space advertises a healthy beverage choice.
- Water:
  - At least 2 slots are stocked with water.
  - Water is stocked in the highest selling position.
- Other beverages are 25 calories or less per 8 ounces.
- High Calorie Beverages:
  - No more than 2 slots are stocked with these beverages.
  - Beverages are stocked in the lowest selling position.
  - Beverages are in 12 ounce containers or smaller.
Make Your Own Plan-o-gram

A plan-o-gram is a tool that guides product placement in a vending machine. Plan-o-grams can help you ensure that vending machines are stocked according to the Standards. Create your own plan-o-gram and share it with your vending machine company; ask them to share it with the route drivers to ensure that your machine is accurately stocked.

There are many possible ways to stock a vending machine to meet the Standards. The examples below are based on common vending machine configurations, but plan-o-grams can be created for any vending machine format. All items stocked must meet the Standards.

**Plan-o-gram example 1 (9-slot machine):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plain seltzer</td>
<td>orange seltzer</td>
<td>lime seltzer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100% orange juice (10 oz)</td>
<td>ginger ale (12 oz)</td>
<td>diet ginger ale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plan-o-gram example 2 (40-slot machine):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plain seltzer</td>
<td>plain seltzer</td>
<td>plain seltzer</td>
<td>lime seltzer</td>
<td>lime seltzer</td>
<td>orange seltzer</td>
<td>raspberry seltzer</td>
<td>cherry seltzer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mint water</td>
<td>berry water</td>
<td>lemon water</td>
<td>diet citrus water</td>
<td>diet cherry water</td>
<td>diet fruit punch</td>
<td>diet lemonade</td>
<td>diet lemon sports drink</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diet cola</td>
<td>diet cola</td>
<td>diet cherry cola</td>
<td>diet cherry cola</td>
<td>diet orange soda</td>
<td>diet orange soda</td>
<td>diet lemon soda</td>
<td>diet lime soda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sports drink (12 oz)</td>
<td>cola (12 oz)</td>
<td>diet lemon tea</td>
<td>diet peach tea</td>
<td>green tea</td>
<td>green tea</td>
<td>plain tea</td>
<td>plain tea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key:
- **high calorie**
- **low calorie**
- **water**

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