

## What Is Changing?

With the addition of candy to the SNAP Healthy Choice Waiver, items defined as “candy” will no longer be able to be purchased with SNAP benefits, effective November 1, 2026.

### Definition of Candy

A preparation of sugar, honey, or other natural or artificial sweeteners in combination with chocolate, fruits, nuts, or other ingredients or flavorings in the form of bars, drops, powder, or pieces, typically traditionally intended to be eaten by itself in the form in which it is sold. Candy is considered shelf-stable and also includes items that are not in bar, drop, powder, or piece form, such as cotton candy and candy-coated fruit.

This definition does not include baking ingredients or other items that are used in baking or cooking but not intended to be eaten in the form in which they are sold. Baking ingredients include items such as sprinkles, melting wafers, plain marshmallows, sweetened coconut, toffee bits, and baking chips.

Other items that are not considered candy include protein bars, granola, granola bars, cereal, cereal bars, toaster pastries, yogurt with candy pieces, ice cream, cookies, pastries, cakes, muffins, and other bakery-style items. These items may contain minor candy additives, but their primary form is non-candy.

### Ineligible items

- Candy bars
- Fruit-flavored candies
- Gummy candies
- Hard candies
- Gum
- Mints
- Licorice
- Powdered candy
- Cotton candy
- Candy-coated or sweetened fruit
- Candy-coated or sweetened popcorn
- Candied nuts
- Candy-coated or filled marshmallows

### Eligible items

- Baking items
- Protein bars
- Granola
- Granola bars
- Cereal
- Cereal bars
- Yogurt with candy pieces
- Ice cream
- Ice cream with candy pieces
- Cookies
- Non-candy-coated or unsweetened popcorn
- Flavored syrups
- Pastries
- Cakes
- Muffins
- Other bakery-style items

Items whose original forms are non-candy but contain some candy pieces **will remain eligible**. Examples include ice cream, trail mix with candy pieces, granola bars with candy pieces, protein bars with candy pieces, popcorn with candy pieces, etc.

## What Is a Baking Ingredient?

A baking ingredient is an item whose primary purpose is to be used in baking and is not typically intended to be eaten in the form in which it is sold.

### Examples

- Sprinkles
- Decorating candies (such as edible icing decorations, candy eyeballs, etc.)
- Melting wafers
- Plain marshmallows
- Unsweetened/sweetened coconut
- Toffee bits
- Baking chips (such as chocolate, dark chocolate, butterscotch, white chocolate, cinnamon, cherry, etc.)
- Candy bar baking bits and chips
- Almond bark
- Sugar
- Brown sugar
- Powdered sugar
- Frosting



**\*This document does not include every possible product and should not be considered exhaustive.**