

The Community Eligibility Provision



Outline

- Overview
- Benefits
- School Eligibility Requirements
- Application process for States
- Procedures
- Questions

Overview

- Community Eligibility Provision is available to all States starting SY 2014-2015.
- Provides an alternative to household applications for free and reduced price meals in high poverty local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools.
- LEA or schools electing the option agree to serve all students free lunch and breakfast for four successive school years.
- Meal program claims are based on the percentage of **identified students** multiplied by a factor of 1.6.

Overview cont:

- Any costs of serving breakfasts and lunches in excess of the Federal assistance received, including Federal cash reimbursement, must be paid from non Federal sources.
- Schools CANNOT be a residential child care institution (RCCI) as that term is set forth in the definition of “School” in 7 CFR 210.2.

Benefits

- Each and every day every student in your school will be eligible to participate in the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program.
- No Applications
- Save on employee man hours
- No Verification
 - no sample pool, no sample size, no notice of adverse action
- No confirming Official

Benefits continued:

- Eliminates the need for an alternative meal for students who have insufficient funds in their accounts.
- Reduced printing and postage cost
- The 1.6 multiplier
- Simplified meal counting and claiming procedures
- Saving of time during the Administrative Review
 - Pulling applications for SA monitor.
- Schools can use a la carte sales to cover costs above the federal reimbursement

School Eligibility Requirements

- Who are the identified students?
 - Students certified for free meals **NOT** through individual applications:
 - SNAP
 - TANF
 - FDPIR
 - Homeless
 - Runaway
 - Migrant youth
 - Foster children*
 - Head Start/pre-K Even Start
 - Non-applicants approved by local Officials



School/LEA Eligibility Requirements

- The school/LEAs must have an identified student percentage greater than or equal to 40% to be eligible.
- The percentage of identified students is calculated by dividing the number of identified students by the total number of students enrolled.

$$\% \text{ of identified students} = \frac{\text{Number of identified students}}{\text{Total enrollment}} \times 100$$

How are meals claimed?

- ISP is multiplied by a factor of **1.6** to determine the % of total meals served that will be reimbursed at the Federal **FREE** rate
 - 1.6 multiplier approximates free and reduced % if applications were still collected
- The remaining % of total meals is reimbursed at the Federal **PAID** rate
- If $ISP \geq 62.5$, all meals reimbursed at **FREE** rate
($62.5 \times 1.6 = 100$)

How are schools grouped?

- Schools can be eligible to participate in CEP individually, in a group, or district-wide
- When schools are grouped, ISP is calculated using the identified student and enrollment totals for all schools in the group
- Schools that would not be eligible to participate in CEP individually may participate as part of a group, provided that the group's ISP is still at least 40%
- LEAs can enroll multiple groups in CEP

LEA Level: FNS-742

- The district wide identified student percentage =

Sum of Section 3

Enrollment data in Section 1

x100

Grouping Example

- In this example, three schools are grouped together by their LEA:

	Identified students	Enrollment	ISP
School 1	60	120	50%
School 2	38	100	38%
School 3	150	200	75%
Group of schools	248	420	59%

Total identified students for group (248)

Total enrollment for group (420)

Lea Level: FNS-742

- Section 1 of the FNS-742: Enrollment information

Section 1	Total Schools, Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) and Enrolled Students	**All SFAs must report Section 1**		A. Number of Schools OR Institutions	B. Number of Students
		1-1: Total schools (<i>Do not include RCCIs</i>):			
		1-2: Total RCCIs (<i>Do not include schools counted in 1-1</i>):			
		1-2a: RCCIs with day students (<i>Report ONLY day students in 1-2aB</i>):			
		1-2b: RCCIs with NO day students:			

- Section 3 of the FNS-742: Number of Identified Students

Section 3	Students approved as FREE eligible NOT subject to verification	**ALL SFAs must report Section 3 or check box 3-1 if applicable**		B. Number of FREE Students
		3-1: <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box only if all schools and/or RCCIs in the SFA were not required to perform direct certification with SNAP (<i>i.e. NON BASE year Provision 2/3 for all schools</i>)		
		3-2: Students directly certified through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): <i>Do not include students certified with SNAP through the letter method.</i>		
		3-3: Students directly certified through other programs: <i>Include those directly certified through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Medicaid (if applicable); those documented as homeless, migrant, runaway, foster, Head Start, Pre-K Even Start, or non-applicant but approved by local officials. DO NOT include SNAP students already reported in 3-2.</i>		
		3-4: Students certified categorically FREE eligible through SNAP letter method: <i>Include students certified for free meals through the family providing a letter from the SNAP agency.</i>		

Important Dates

April 1st

- The date on which the identified student percentage must be established for determining the eligibility and the claiming percentages to be used.

April 15th

- State agencies notify LEAs of districtwide eligibility status and provide guidance and information.
- School level data is collected

May 1st

- State agencies post the LEA districtwide and school level lists on website and send the link to FNS

June 30th

- Interested and eligible LEAs must notify their State agency of their intent to participate in CEP.

School Site CEP Notification

CEP Site Eligibility Report - Annual Notification of Schools

Program Year: 2013 - 2014

School Name	CE (LEA) Name	Identified Student Percentage
Candy Crush H S	Chick-fil-la ISD	32.1%
Candy Crush EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	31.1%
Be Be's PRE-K	Chick-fil-la ISD	50.7%
Breaking Bad EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	47.0%
Achy Breaky EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	58.7%
Spanish Cove MIDDLE	Chick-fil-la ISD	43.6%
Chipotle MIDDLE	Chick-fil-la ISD	43.3%
Twerk EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	45.7%
Hand Jive CENTER	Chick-fil-la ISD	67.7%
Happy Face EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	48.9%
Good Friends EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	60.3%
Granny's Little Angels PRE-K	Chick-fil-la ISD	85.6%
Elvis EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	63.3%
TuPac EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	36.2%
Biggie Small MIDDLE	Chick-fil-la ISD	42.8%
Etta James Elementary	Chick-fil-la ISD	68.0%
Gangnam Style HS	Chick-fil-la ISD	65.9%
Obama EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	68.2%
Krispie Crème High	Chick-fil-la ISD	42.9%
Genesis Pre-K	Chick-fil-la ISD	44.8%
Smiley Face EL	Chick-fil-la ISD	56.0%
Retirement is Fun Center for Kids	Chick-fil-la ISD	63.6%
Above Average HS	Chick-fil-la ISD	72.5%

Changes During the 4-Year Cycle

- A new identified student percentage may be established each year (April 1)
- During the 2nd, 3rd and 4th years, the LEA/school may select the higher of the identified student percentage from:
 - the year directly prior; OR
 - the year prior to the first year of operating CEP
- LEAs/schools in year 4 with an identified student percentage of less than 40% but more than 30% may elect for an additional year (a grace year)

Provision 2/3 Schools

- Eligible provision 2/3 schools intending to elect the option must be able to establish current identified student percentages.
- Eligible provision 2/3 schools may elect the option during base or non base years, as long as current direct certification numbers are available.
- For renewal of CEP, the only requirement is the count of identified students compared to renewal of Provision which requires performing the standard application process.

Option Considerations

- Are there enough funds from non Federal sources to cover meal costs in excess of the total Federal reimbursements?
- More students may wish to participate in the NSLP or SBP because all meals will be served free.
- Consider and plan for potential issues surrounding the absence of data for other educational purposes, specifically, those that utilized the NSLP application or data.
- When will the increases in participation change meal costs?
 - Economies of Scale.

State Agency Review of CEP

- How will CEP data and information be examined during the administrative review process?
- Check the level of election –i.e., whether the CEP qualification is based on district-wide numbers, numbers from an individual school or group of schools; or a count of the number of Identified Students submitted by the SFA for CEP approval.
- Verify the total number of Identified Students through examining supporting documentation as of April 1 of the year prior to the first year of CEP implementation (including lists of students directly certified through SNAP, TANF and FDPIR; lists of homeless/migrant/runaway students as certified by appropriate local officials; lists of students eligible via participation in Head Start and Even Start; documentation to support extension of categorical eligibility via direct certification; documentation for foster students certified for means other than an application);
- Calculate the claiming percentage for free meals by multiplying the Identified Student percentage time 1.6.
- Calculate the Claiming Percentage for paid meals by subtracting the claiming percentage for free meals from 100.
- Compare claiming percentage for free and paid meals as submitted by the SFA for CEP approval with the enrollment data.

Questions?

