



Community Eligibility Provision: Overview & Timeline for SY 17-18



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Today's Agenda

- CEP Overview
- CEP Timeline
- Priorities for SY 17-18
- FNS Resources
- Questions and Answers





Submit Your Questions!



- Submit your questions using the “**Comment**” feature on the left side of your screen



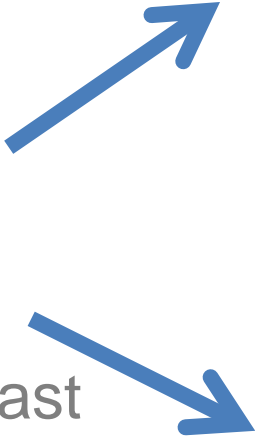
CEP Overview

- Established by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act
- Allows low-income schools to offer meals to all students at no cost, without the need to collect applications
- Reduces the paperwork burden for families and schools





CEP Eligibility

- Schools districts, groups of schools, and individual schools may participate
 - Eligibility is based on the percentage of **identified students** enrolled
 - The **identified student percentage** must be at least 40% for the entity to participate
- **Children who participate in SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR**
 - **Homeless, runaway, migrant, or foster children**
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$$\frac{\text{\# Identified Students}}{\text{Total \#Enrolled Students}} \times 100$$



CEP Timeline



Annual Data Matching

- All LEAs operating a special Provision **must** conduct data matching between SNAP and student enrollment records at least once annually
- More frequent matches are **encouraged**



Citation: 7 CFR 245.6(b)(1)(v)

April 1 Data

- The ISP **must** be established based on data as of April 1 of the school year prior to CEP election



Citation: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(3)(i)



Notification Requirements: State Agency Role

- By **APRIL 15**, States notify LEAs of their district-wide CEP eligibility
- Notification must include:
 - Eligible Districts (*ISP > 40 percent*)
 - Near-Eligible Districts (*40 percent > ISP > 30 percent*)
 - Districts Eligible for a “Grace Year” (*40 percent > ISP > 30 percent in the fourth year of the CEP cycle*)
 - Currently Participating Districts



Citation: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(6)



Notification Requirements: Local Education Agency Role

- By **APRIL 15**, LEAs provide school-level CEP eligibility information to States
- Notification must include:
 - Eligible Schools (*ISP > 40 percent*)
 - Near-Eligible Schools (*40 percent > ISP ≥ 30 percent*)
 - Schools Eligible for a “Grace Year” (*40 percent > ISP > 30 percent in the fourth year of the CEP cycle*)
 - Currently Participating Schools



Citation: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(5)



Publication Requirements: State Agency Role



- By [MAY 1](#), State agencies must publish eligibility lists on the State agency website
- States must submit link to FNS via email



Citation: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(7)(iii)



Community Eligibility Provision Resource Center

The CEP Resource Center provides extensive resources for parents, teachers, and school officials at the local, state, and Federal level to better understand CEP and its positive benefits, along with useful tools to help facilitate successful implementation of the provision in your school!



Learn About CEP

The Basics

- CEP Fact Sheet
- Joint Letter from the Departments of Agriculture and Education
- Webinar: Community Eligibility Basics
- CEP Perceived Barriers to Implementation Info Sheet

CEP Webinars

2016 CEP Webinar Series

- CEP and Alternative Breakfast Models
- Making "Cents" of CEP at a 40-50% ISP
- CEP: Messaging and Outreach in Your Community
- Notification and Publication Requirements
- Improving Direct Certification Systems

2015 CEP Webinar Series

- Partial Implementation
- Successful Implementation Strategies
- Administrative Basics

Learn More!

Webinar: Notification and Publication Requirements

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center>

Election Deadline



- By **JUNE 30**, eligible LEAs must decide whether to elect CEP
- If electing, LEAs must submit required documentation to the State agency



CEP Timeline Summary

Date	Requirement
April 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State agencies notify LEAs of district-wide eligibility status and provide guidance and information.• LEAs submit school-level eligibility information to State agency. State agencies may exempt LEAs from this requirement if the State agency has direct access to school-level data.
May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State agencies post the LEA district-wide and school-level lists on their website and send the link to FNS.
June 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interested and eligible LEAs notify their State agency of their intent to participate under CEP.• LEAs planning to participate in CEP the following school year submit to the State agency identified student and total enrollment data that reflects April 1.



CEP Priorities for SY 17-18





Using Data

- Improve communication to highly-eligible LEAs and schools
- Assist with CEP implementation





Outreach to Rural Schools

- FNS is working to address barriers for rural schools
- Submit your **“Rural Success Stories”** using the “Comment” feature!





Transfer of Eligibility

- Students **must** receive meals at no cost for up to 10 operating days when transferring from a Provision school to a non-Provision school in the same LEA* during the school year
- State agencies **have discretion** to extend this access to up to 30 operating days

**By July 1, 2019, this requirement is extended to all similar transfers between LEAs*



Citation: 7 CFR 245.9(I)



Carryover of Eligibility

- State agencies **have discretion** to allow LEAs to provide up to 30 operating days of meals at no cost to students who attended any Provision school during the prior school year
- **May** include carryover eligibility for schools in the same LEA and between LEAs



Citation: 7 CFR 245.6(c)(2) and 245.9(I)



FNS Resources



USDA-FNS Resources

- CEP Resource Center:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center>
- School Programs Policy:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/policy/all>





Questions?

<http://www.fns.usda.gov>

