



REGULAR MEAL COUNTING AND CLAIMING

Breakfast, Lunch, After School Snacks by school and school district

- Eligibility Determination – Applications, Direct Certification (DC) of SNAP, TANF, and foster children are completed each year.
- Student income eligibility determination is completed by Child Nutrition.
- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) is required to be calculated each year.
- Applications may be collected all year and there is no deadline.
- Meal eligibility is determined at the point of sale: Free, reduced, or paid for each meal.
- USDA reimbursement is made by student meal count based on eligibility.
- No funds are required by the school district if a negative cost center is created for meal service.
- Verification reporting is required yearly.
- Breakfast and lunch may be served.



PROVISION 2

Breakfast, Lunch, After School Snacks by school district

- Eligibility Determination – Applications, Direct Certification (DC) of SNAP, TANF, and foster children are completed every 4 years.
- Student income eligibility determination is completed by Child Nutrition.
- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) is required to be calculated each year.
- Base year applications are collected during the first 30 days during delayed implementation when student eligibility is being determined.
- During the base year, all students receive meals at the paid meal price until eligibility is determined. After 30 days, all students eat without a charge. Payment is required at point of sale for adult sales, ala carte items, or extra food sales.
- After 30 day implementation, meal counts are collected based on student eligibility determination. After the base year reimbursement is based on percentage of eligible student meals per month as determined by state CNP staff.
- Negative operating CNP will require funding other than federal funds to reinstate a positive account.
- Verification reporting is required yearly.
- Breakfast and lunch may be served.



COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP)

Breakfast, Lunch, After School Snacks by school, area grouping, or district

- Eligibility Determination – Direct Certification (DC) must meet 40% threshold by 4/01 each year; may be renewed for up to 4 years. Redetermination may be completed every year to increase based on immediate prior year data. Recommend DC to be $\geq 60\%$ minimum.
- Student income eligibility determination **is not** completed by Child Nutrition for other federal programs in a school district.
- Financial application determination for Federal Program economic information is required to be made by local school district staff.
- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) is required to be calculated each year.
- Yearly CEP calculations are required by 4/01 and determination to implement CEP must be made by the district on or before 6/30.
- All students eat without a charge. Payment is required at point of sale for adults, ala carte items, or extra food sales.
- Reimbursement will only be made for percentages of students calculated for free and paid. Reduced rate for reimbursement has been eliminated with CEP.
- Negative operating CNP will require funding other than federal funds to reinstate a positive account.
- Verification reporting is yearly.
- Breakfast and lunch must be served at all CEP approved sites.



Direct Certification (DC) Definition:

USDA DC identification is as follows:

DHR electronic match with STI student enrollment based on:

- SNAP
- TANF
- Foster Children

Non-electronic matches are:

- Homeless
- Runaway
- Migrant
- Head Start
- Pre-K Even Start
- Non-applicants approved by LEA

CEP Calculation Examples:



REIMBURSEMENT

40 X USDA multiplier of 1.6 =	72% Free 28% Paid
50 X USDA multiplier of 1.6 =	80% Free 20% Paid
55 X USDA multiplier of 1.6 =	88% Free 12% Paid
60 X USDA multiplier of 1.6 =	96% Free 4% Paid



This brochure provides general information and is not all-inclusive.

For specific requirements regarding program participation, please contact the **School Nutrition Program Office:**

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

OVERVIEW OF MEAL COUNTING AND CLAIMING OPTIONS

