Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Webinar

March 28th, 2022

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Topics Covered in this Webinar

- Basics of CEP
- · Eligibility Requirements
- CEP Cycles
- CEP in the SNTS
- Tools to increase ISP and maximize claiming percentages



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What is CEP?

- Community eligibility allows high-need schools to offer breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost.
- There are no free & reduced household applications
- Uses Directly Certified student data as of April 1st of the prior school year
- Provision program that operates on a 4-Year Cycle







Eligibility Criteria

- Schools and LEAs with a minimum Identified Student Percentage (ISP; ≥ 40 percent) in the prior school year
- · Identified students are those certified for free meals without the use of household applications
- Available to:
 - All schools in an LEA
 - A group of schools in an LEA
 - An individual school in an LEA

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Group Criteria for CEP Implementation

- If the district-wide ISP is below 40%, partial
 - CEP is an appropriate option
 - Group of schools
 - Individual schools
- The group of schools is weighted based on the enrollment of each school

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Calculating ISP

Identified Students	x	100	=	Identified Student Percentage
Enrolled Students				
				ISP must be at least 40%
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Identified Student Percentage (ISP)

• Who are "Identified Students"?

- Children directly certified for free meals through data matching
 - SNAP, TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
 - Includes Extended Eligible students
 - Found in the SNTS Direct Certification system
- Children who are certified for free school meals
- without an application because they are:
- Homeless, migrant, enrolled in Head Start, or in foster care

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Identified Student Percentage (ISP)

• Who are "Enrolled Students"?

- Enrolled in a CEP participating school
- Attending a CEP school
- · Has access to lunch or breakfast

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Calculating Claim Reimbursements

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- Example:
 - 50% ISP x 1.6 = 80
 - Therefore, 80% of the breakfasts and lunches would be reimbursed at the free reimbursement rate.
 - The remaining 20% would be reimbursed at the paid rate.
- What is the 1.6 multiplier?
 - The 1.6 multiplier is regulated by the USDA.

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ISP	(ISP multiplier)	Free	Paid
40%		64%	36%
45%		72%	28%
50%	× 1.6	80%	20%
55%		88%	12%
60%		96%	4%
65%		100%	0%

Examples

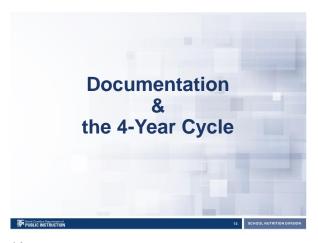
Increasing ISP

- Perform direct certification matches as often as possible
- Extend eligibility to students living in the same household with other students who are directly certified
- Connect with school support staff to identify any students who are newly homeless or have entered foster care
- Connect with local organizations that do SNAP outreach to families

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Understanding the CEP Cycle

- The ISP is established as of April 1st in the school year prior to implementing CEP, and can be used for four school years
- · Example:
 - The SFA's last Data Year cycle was established in April 2019, for Cycle Year SY 2019-2020.
 - Their 4-Year cycle would run from SY 2019-2020 through SY 2023-2024
 - The SFA would not need to re-establish until April 2023
- SFA's are allowed to re-establish before the end of the 4-Year cycle (i.e. at year 2 or 3)

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Source Documentation

- Documentation may include:
 - Direct certification lists
 - · Lists of homeless students
 - Lists of migrant students
 - Etc.
- Each list should include confirmation of total enrollment numbers

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Direct Certification System

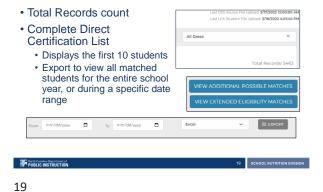
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COMPLETE DIRECT CERTIFICATION LIST	

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Direct Certification System

information obtained through the	direct certification process, as well as the	Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) (42 U.S criminal penalties for improper release information
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Direct Certification



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Steps to Complete for CEP

- 1. Use the CEP Site Data Worksheet
- Enter your numbers from the CEP Site Data Worksheet into the SNTS CEP Site List (as of April 1st)
- Complete the CEP Schedule, once you decide to do CEP and have started your SFA Application for SY 2022 - 2023

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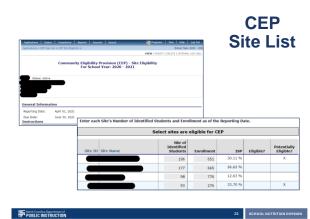
Completing the CEP Site List in SNTS

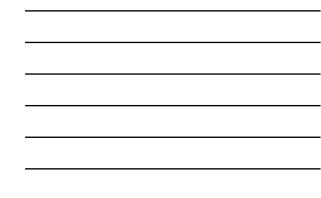
SNTS > Applications menu > Community Eligibility Provision For SY 2022 - 2023

Applications > CEP Year List					School Year: 2021 - 202
	Comn	nunity Eligibility Pr	ovision (CEP) S	iite List	
Status: Active	_				
Action	School Year	Reporting Date	Open Date	Close Date	Status
Action Add	School Year 2021 - 2022	Reporting Date	Open Date April 1, 2022	Close Date June 30, 2022	Status Not Started
	2021 - 2022				Not Started

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CEP Schedule

- Ask any questions <u>prior</u> to revising/submitting your CEP Schedule
- SNTS > Blue tile for SNP > Applications > Application Packet

Action View Revise	Form Name ✓ SFA Application
View Admin Revise	Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schedule
Add	Fresh Fruit And Vegetable Sponsor Application
Details	🖌 Meal Pattern Compliance Dashboard
Details	Checklist Summary (8)

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CEP Benefits Everyone!

- Students
- Parents

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- School staff
- Administrators



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Thank you for attending this webinar!

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Resources

- USDA's CEP Resource Center:
 - <u>https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center</u>
- NCDPI School Nutrition:
 - <u>https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/school-nutrition/information-resources-subject/determining-household-eligibility-school-meals/community-eligibility-provision-cep</u>
- FRAC CEP webpage:
 - <u>https://frac.org/community-eligibility</u>

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- (3) (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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