

Wednesday's Wisdom



May 2014

Community Eligibility Provision – Is it right for your school(s)?

Community eligibility is a new USDA program that starts with the school year 2014 – 2015. Please see below for resources available to SAUs that help make the decision of entering the CEP or not.

Decision Tool

Attached, please see a “Decision Tree” that may help SAUs make the decision as to whether to enter the Community Eligibility Provision.

Basic Primer on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) (requires further research on CEP)

As of April 1, 2014, schools that have at least 40 percent of students (only those with access to a meal) who are qualified for free meals through a method other than income application may qualify for CEP. Determination of the percentage begins with finding the number of “Identified Students” (IS) and includes students approved by the following methods:

- Directly certified students eligible for SNAP (downloaded through the *myNHDOE* website) and other household members qualified through the extension of direct certification benefits.
- Foster children
- Homeless students certified as such by the district liaison
- Migrant students verified by the State
- Runaway youth certified by local officials
- Head Start students
- Pre-K Even Start students

The number of IS is then divided into the number of enrolled students in the school which equals the Identified Student Percentage (ISP)

For further information on CEP go to:

<http://education.nh.gov/program/nutrition/CommunityEligibilityProvision.htm>

Basic Requirements of CEP

- It is required for breakfast to be offered in CEP buildings for the 2014-2015 school year.
- The Food Service Department may not process household applications for schools implementing CEP. For CEP buildings, there will no longer be a “Free/Reduced Price Lunch” list of students.
- Breakfast and lunch must be available for all students in CEP buildings at no charge.

Actions to take now:

- Read further information about CEP and how it works at the State's Community Eligibility Provision webpage at:
<http://education.nh.gov/program/nutrition/CommunityEligibilityProvision.htm>
- Meet with groups like school superintendents, schools board members, non-profit education advocacy organizations, teacher's organizations, or parent associations to tell them about CEP.
- Know that your state's formula for state education funding involves individual student income data and that the State Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services has met with those responsible for Title I, school funding and assessment.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE:

The ARTS in August – SAVE THE DATE!

When: August 13, 2014
Where: Concord High School, Concord NH
What: Offered in partnership with SNA's Vendor Show
Workshop sample: Getting ready for the Administrative Review, HACCP, Verification and more!

Points of Interest:

- Presented in conjunction with and the day after the SNA Vendor Show. Registration forthcoming.
- Great information to start the new school year!
- Shop Concord's many stores for back to school savings.
- Exhibitors/Resource Tables will be on hand.