

CEP

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1) What is Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)?

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows the nation's highest poverty schools and districts to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications. Instead, schools that adopt CEP are reimbursed using a formula based on the percentage of students categorically eligible for free meals based on their participation in other specific means-tested programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

2) How does a district qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision?

Eligibility is determined by the Identified Student Percentage (ISP) per school building. ISP is calculated by the number of students who qualify for free meals without an application (foster, homeless, Medicaid, SNAP, etc.) divided by the total school enrollment. A school must have a minimum ISP of 40% to qualify. Districts may participate in CEP a variety of ways: by individual school building, groups of schools or the entire district.

3) What if I have one child that attends a CEP school and another child that attends a school that is not a CEP school?

In order to qualify for free or reduced meals, an application must be submitted for the student in the non CEP school. <https://www.rsd.k12.pa.us/Foodservice.aspx>

4) What are the meal prices for students in the non CEP school?

Meal prices:	Reduced Price	Full Price
Elementary Breakfast	\$0.30	\$1.25
Elementary Lunch	\$0.40	\$2.85
Secondary Breakfast	\$0.30	\$1.50
Secondary Lunch	\$0.40	\$3.00
Secondary Tier	\$4.00	\$4.00

IF A STUDENT SELECTS A NON- REIMBURSABLE MEAL (i.e., the student refuses to select the components required for a reimbursable meal), the school may charge the student for the food components a la carte. This will result in a higher cost.

5) What is a reimbursable meal?

Breakfast Meal

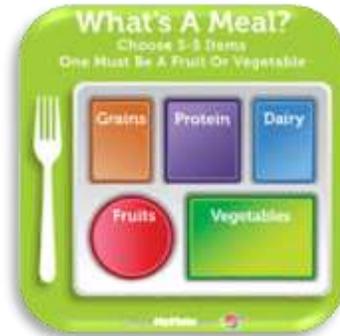
You must choose at least 3 of the 4 components available at the breakfast price.

Choice of: Grain/protein Fruit or Fruit ilk - 1% white, and fat-free

Lunch Meal

You must choose at least 3 of the 5 components available for the school lunch price.

Minimum of 1/2 cup serving of fruit or a minimum of a 1/2 cup of vegetable must accompany a reimbursable lunch Meat or meat alternate Choice of Vegetable Choice of Fruit Grain/Bread



Choice of Milk- 1% white, and fat-free

6) Parents with students in a CEP school will not be required to complete a free /reduced household application. However, the CEP school is still required to report socioeconomic data and report the to the PA depart of Education. In order to collect this data which will include income and household quantity data, a building survey will be issued annually.

7) What are the benefits to a school building participating in CEP?

Schools implementing CEP have experienced great success. CEP helps with

- a) Improving the learning environment
- b) Eliminating student stigma
- c) Increasing student participation
- d) Eliminating unpaid meal balances
- e) Improving program efficiency