



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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MARIANA D. PADILLA
SECRETARY DESIGNATE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

July 1, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: BECLABITO DAY SCHOOL
FROM: Student Success and Wellness Bureau
RE: CEP Approval SY25-28

Section 104(a) of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), amended section 11(a)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) (42 U.S.C. 1759a(a)(1)), provides an alternative to household applications for free and reduced priced meals in local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools in high poverty areas. This alternative is referred to as the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

The Public Education Department (PED) has verified that the data submitted in your application supports participation in the CEP option (see attached).

- Since identified student percentage (ISP) supports participation in CEP, you may begin the SY25 (July 1, 2024) without charging students for the required breakfast and lunch meals for up to four consecutive school years, to include SY28 (CEP Eligibility expires on 6/30/2028).
- In addition, the public must be notified that there will be no charge for student meals and no collection of individual household applications for free and reduced price meals.
- Though there will be no collection of payments for meals from students, the meal count must still be taken at the point of service (or approved alternate) and must be claimed according to the "free and paid claiming percentages and procedures".
- If your grouped CEP percentages (Free Reimbursement Rate) is less than 100% (see attached), you are responsible for making up the difference for the cost of the meals with non-Federal funds.
- **Moving forward, you must notify the Student Success and Wellness Bureau in writing no later than June 30th of the current school year if you decide not to proceed with the CEP, stop utilizing CEP or change your CEP group(s) at any time for future school years.** Otherwise there may be consequences with your reimbursement.

- **Please retain these three items for future Administrative Reviews.** You must retain these documents for three federal fiscal years after the final year of your expiration date of CEP. (Please retain these records on file until June 30, 2031).
 - The CEP Approval Letter SY25-28 (this document).
 - NMPED CEP Guidelines SY25-28 (countersigned and attached).
 - ISP Data for CEP for SY25-28

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- **E-Rate Verification.** The Public Education Department (PED) has verified that the data submitted in your CEP application supports the following items:
 - The base year for CEP is 7/1/2024 (SY24-25).
 - The CEP percentage of directly certified students is multiplied by the CEP national multiplier of 1.6 to determine the percentage of children eligible for NSLP for E-Rate discount, and can be found on the enclosed document: *CEP School and ISP List (ISP Data for CEP for SY25-28)*.
 - The data source URL is: <https://eui.ped.state.nm.us/sites/stars/ProdNova/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Thank you for electing to participate in the CEP and supporting New Mexico's effort in providing students with healthy and nutritious meals in order to ensure they are ready for success.

Sincerely,



Michael Chavez
Director
Student Success and Wellness Bureau
New Mexico Public Education Department

Enc: NMPED CEP Guidelines SY25-28, CEP School and ISP List (ISP Data for CEP for SY25-28)
cc: School Food Service Director