



Nutrition and Wellness Programs Child Nutrition Programs E-mail Alert

March 11, 2015

School Nutrition Programs: Eligibility for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

Annually, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) posts a listing of school sites and districts that are **possibly** eligible for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The listing is based on information provided by the school or district on the Verification Summary Report in October. The most current report of possibly eligible schools and districts is now available on the [CEP website](#).

If you are unfamiliar with what CEP is, it is an alternative to household eligibility applications for free and reduced price meals in high poverty Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) (or districts) and schools. In CEP schools all student receive breakfast and lunch at no cost and the school utilizes an approved claiming percentage for receiving reimbursement for those meals. This approved claiming percentage is good for four years. CEP has been implemented successfully in Illinois schools for four years and we currently have over [1000 schools](#) that participate in CEP.

CEP is only available to schools that participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program and RCCI's are not eligible for CEP.

If your school or district is possibly eligible for the CEP and you would like to learn more about CEP, we highly recommend that you view the CEP Overview recorded webinar also found on the [CEP website](#).

If you would like to apply for CEP for some or all of your schools, the CEP application will be available on April 1, 2015 and is due by June 30, 2015.

If after viewing the recorded webinar on CEP you have additional questions please contact us via email at cnp@isbe.net or by telephone at 800/545-7892.