



The Cusick School District is now operating the **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**!

What does this mean?

- All students eat two school meals at no cost!
- CEP allows less time in lines, so students have more time to eat.

What can you do?

- Fill out the Family Income Survey every year.
 - This ensures your all our students can access this benefit!

Find out more at www.cusick.wednet.edu





The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

What Does It Mean For Your School or Local Educational Agency?

What does it do?

- Allows schools and local educational agencies (LEAs) located in low-income areas to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students
- Eliminates the burden of collecting household applications to determine eligibility for school meal programs

Who benefits? Everyone!

- **Students**
Access to free nutritious meals for all students, no stigma, and less time spent in cashier lines and more time to eat nutritious meals
- **Parents**
No household application means less paperwork and no worries about lunch accounts
- **School staff**
Streamlined meal service operation and more time for students to consume their food
- **Administrators**
Reduced paperwork and administrative costs, no need to track unpaid meal charges, improved program integrity, and more nourished students ready to learn and grow



Who can participate?

- Schools and LEAs with a minimum Identified Student Percentage (≥ 40 percent) in the prior school year

Identified students = those certified for free meals without the use of household applications (for example those directly certified through SNAP).

- Available to:
 - All schools in an LEA
 - A group of schools in an LEA
 - An individual school in an LEA

Background

- Authorized by Congress as a part of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.
- Phased in over a period of 3 years, starting with D.C., Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, and Massachusetts.
- Available nationwide beginning July 1, 2014 (School Year 2014-15).

What must interested schools and LEAs do?

- Meet eligibility requirements.
- Serve free breakfasts and lunches to all students during the 4-year cycle.
- Count total breakfasts and total lunches served to students daily.
- Agree not to collect household applications for school meal programs.
- Determine if non-Federal funds are needed to cover costs above USDA reimbursement.

What do interested schools and LEAs do next?

- Determine if CEP is right for you.
- Contact your State for more information:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/contacts/StateDirectory.htm>.
- If eligible, submit required documentation to your State Agency.