



The Community Eligibility Provision

The Family Income Survey

Since schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) are no longer required to collect the Free and Reduced-Price meal applications for income data, The Family Income Survey is used as the alternative data source.

Without this income data, the loss of E-Rate, Learning Assistance Program (LAP), and other state program funding could be significant!

The Family Income Survey should be distributed to all households that you cannot directly certify as eligible for free meals.



Along with a diligent direct certification process, creating an action plan to distribute and collect the surveys will ensure the financial stability of your district and guarantee that students receive the benefits they are entitled too.



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Best Practices

Consider omitting the word *poverty* throughout the data collection - reframe to focus on community economic demographic for continued support of other educational funding sources.

Distribute the survey in enrollment packets. Gather them during fall parent teacher conferences.



Designate a district staff* person to be in charge of advertising and collecting the Family Income Survey.

Set up for success with an established process!

*Non food-service funded

Advertise that the Family Income Survey is an important tool to secure important educational programs for students!

Work with your food service department to conduct direct certification for Basic Food, TANF, Medicaid, Foster, Homeless, and Migrant Students. Remember, Directly Certified students don't need a Family Income Survey.

