

Applying for
Community
Eligibility Provision
(CEP) in WINS
User Manual

APPLYING FOR COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP) IN WINS USER MANUAL

2023

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Community Eligibility Program (CEP)

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) allows schools with high numbers of low-income children to serve free breakfast and lunch to all students without collecting school meal applications. CEP is available to public, private, and tribal schools.

The Washington State legislature passed House Bill 1878 during the 2022 legislative session which amended RCW 28A.235.300. Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, public schools with an Identified Student Percentage of 40 percent or greater must operate CEP for the four-year CEP cycle. The ISP is calculated as of April 1 each year and is the percentage of students directly certified for free meals without an application.

Helpful Information

<u>Required Fields</u> – Required fields will be marked with an asterisk (*). Data must be entered in required fields or user will receive an error message and will not be allowed to continue until the error has been corrected.

Help Links – Help links (?) will provide the user with additional on-screen help information.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather Materials

- WINS Log-in
- Signed WINS Agreement
- CEP Data Template, including:
 - o Alphabetical list of all enrolled students by school. Data must be reflective of April 1.
 - Highlight Identified Students.
 - o Enrollment as of April 1.

2. Navigate to the Claims Tab

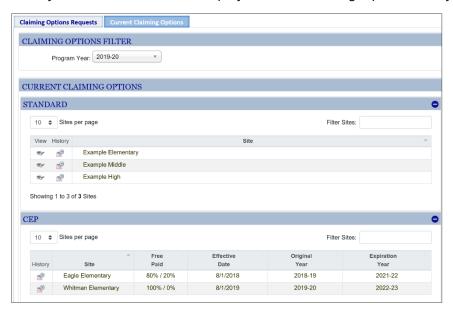
The Claiming Options tab is located as a sub-tab under the main Claims tab on the Profile screen.



3. Review your Current Claiming Options

The *Current Claiming Options* screen is divided into 3 grids that can be expanded or contracted by clicking each of the header rows. Each of these grids will display the list of sites that are operating the Standard, CEP, or Provision II claiming option.

Clicking the *View* icon next to sites will open the *View Site Claiming Option* screen. Clicking the *History* icon next to sites will display the *Site Claiming Option History* screen.



Site Claiming Option History

The Site Claiming Option History screen will show the selected site's claiming option history. The screen will display CEP data history from 2014-15 forward.



4. Claiming Option Requests

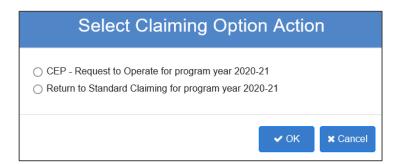
The Claiming Option Requests screen will display all claiming option requests and the status of those requests.



Select Claiming Option Action

The screen will display the *Select Claiming Option Action* screen. Clicking this button will display a pop-up, allowing you to select your desired action:

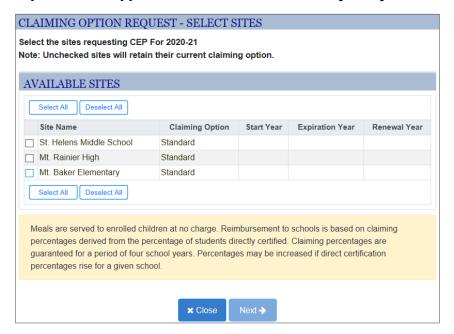
- Request CEP
- Request Provision II
- Request to return to standard if currently operating CEP or Provision II



4. Select Sites

After selecting an action, the screen will display the current claiming option for each site. You can select one or more sites from the list by clicking the individual boxes next to the site name, or you can select all/deselect all using the buttons.

If a site currently operating CEP is selected, that site will be included as part of the new request and if approved, will start a new CEP 4-year cycle.



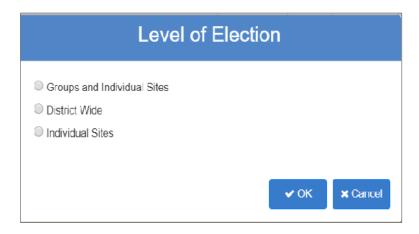
5. Level of Election

After selecting the sites you want to apply CEP to, a pop-up screen will display for selecting the Level of Election.

The options for selection include:

- Groups and Individual Sites
- District-Wide
- Individual Sites

Depending on how many sites you selected for election, you will have various options. Make a selection and click *OK*.



Identified Student and Claiming Percentages

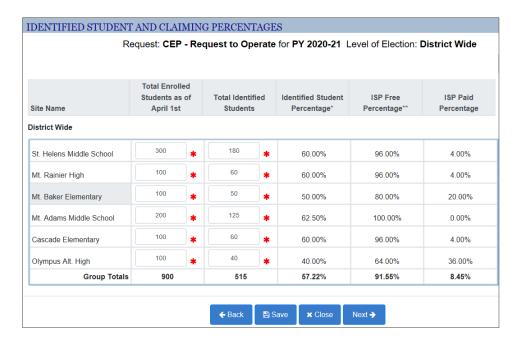
The *Identified Student and Claiming Percentages screen* will display selected sites in groups according to the level of election selected. Using April 1 data, enter the *Total Enrolled Students* and

the *Total Identified Students*. Based on these entries, the system will calculate the ISP Percentages.

You may select the Back button to change site selections and level of election.

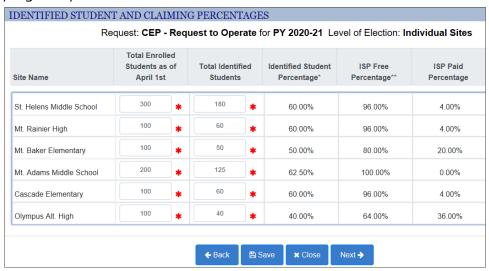
A. District Wide

If *District-Wide* is selected as the level of election, the system will calculate the total ISP for all district sites and claiming percentages will be based on the district-wide calculations.



B. Individual Sites

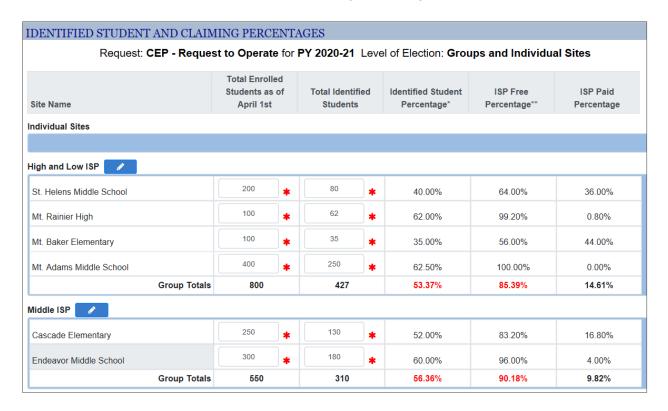
If *Individual Sites* is selected as the level of election, the system will calculate the total ISP for each site individually and claiming percentages will be based on that site's percentages. If an individual site does not meet the required 40%, sponsors are allowed to submit the request for review by a program specialist.



C. Group and Individual Sites

If Groups and Individual Sites is selected as the level of election, the screen will first display all sites

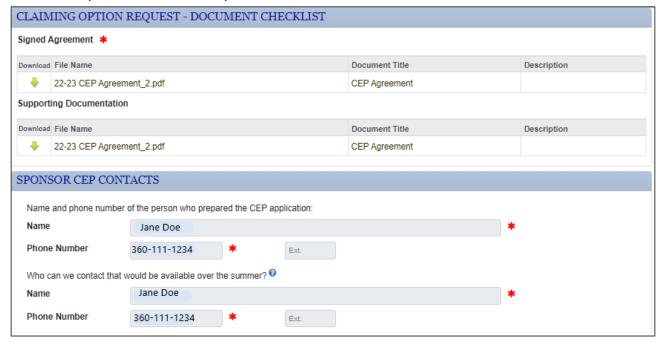
as Individual Sites. Select 'Add Group' to add groups and click and drag sites into groupings or leave as individual sites to achieve the best claiming percentages.



6. Document Checklist

The Document Checklist is the last screen in the CEP application process. Use this screen to upload the required documentation and identify required contacts. Required documents include:

- Signed CEP Agreement
- Completed CEP Data Template



7. Submit CEP Request

Once completed, submit the CEP request from the *Document Checklist* screen. It will then be sent to the program specialist for review. If the specialist returns the application for additional work, it will be displayed as a work queue item on your Claims work queue on the home screen.

If the CEP application is approved or denied, a notice will be sent to the Claims Notifications and Alerts queue on your home screen.

8. What Comes Next?

After submitting the application, the program specialists will request the following submissions for a sample of students:

- Actual Direct Certification Free and Direct Certification Free via Medicaid downloads from EDS
- Certification documents for students "extended eligibility" by shared household include supporting data for qualifying student found on the DC list
- Certification documents for homeless students (signed list provided by Homeless Liaison)
- Certification documents for Migrant students
- Certification documents for ECEAP or Head Start students
- Any other source document necessary to qualify a child such as a letter from DSHS for foster children

Get ready to serve meals at no cost to all students!

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1. **Mail:**

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

- 2. Fax:833-256-1665 or 202-690-7442; or
- 3. **Email:** USDA Program Intake(link is external)

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