

Community Eligibility Plan (CEP)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Community Eligibility Plan (CEP) that was recently approved by the Board?

CEP is a program under the Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Students in qualifying schools will receive breakfast and lunch during the school year at no charge to their families. Families whose students attend these schools will not need to complete an application for the Free and Reduced Lunch program. The program has been phased in over a period of three years in eleven states. It will be available nationwide beginning July 1, 2014.

Why is the CEP important to our students?

The plan makes it easier for K-12 students whose families have high economic need to have access at no charge to nutritious meals offering fruits, vegetables, milk, whole grains, and protein. DCS will be able to serve meals to 1200 additional students in the 17 identified schools

What schools will be affected by the CEP?

All students at the following seventeen schools will receive free breakfast and lunch beginning in August 2014:

- Washington
- Buchanan
- Jefferson
- Monroe
- Madison
- Fillmore
- Hayes
- Children's Village West
- Mid City High
- Smart
- Jackson
- Truman
- Young
- Children's Village Hoover
- Garfield
- Buffalo
- Wilson

Why were these schools selected?

In order for a school to be eligible to participate in this program, a minimum of 40% of the school's population must already receive free meals from another Federal meals source.

There are currently 6,415 students enrolled in the Davenport schools approved to be part of this program. Of that enrollment, 4,071 students, an average of 63.5%, receive meal benefits due to participation in other Federal programs. The current Free & Reduced lunch rate at these schools is 82%.

If my child's school is not one of those listed for the CEP do I still need to complete an application for them to receive free or reduced lunch?

The process to receive free or reduced lunch will remain the same at all other Davenport Community Schools. Parents or guardians will need to completed a form at <https://farapp.davenportschools.org/>

What if there is money remaining in my child's lunch account at a CEP school?

All funds remaining in student accounts at schools that are covered under CEP will remain in the accounts to be used for a la carte purchases. If you would like to have a refund from a student account, please contact the Food & Nutrition office at 563-386-4780.

My child is attending one of the schools covered under the CEP program. Does that mean he/she automatically received a fee waiver, as well?

No. The fee waiver is not automatic for any Davenport Community Schools student. Families may be considered for a fee waiver and other benefits for their student(s) by completing a simple, one-page Household Economic Survey. The survey asks for the number of people in your household, the total annual income for all people in the household, the name/school/grade level of all Davenport Community Schools students in the household, a signature and phone number. The form will be available at your school office or online at <http://www.davenportschools.org/enrollment-and-registration-overview/fee-schedule/>

Do I need to complete a Household Economic Survey form for each of my children?

No. You will only need to complete one form for all of the students in your household.

My children already receive school meals at no charge. Why should I complete this form?

In addition to be considered to receive a fee waiver, many state and federal programs use household and income information to determine eligibility for their programs. Completing this form allows your school to determine your child's eligibility for additional programs.

Who should I include as members of my household?

You must include all persons living in your household, related or not, who share income and expenses. Please include yourself and all children living with you.

What if my income is not always the same?

List the amount you normally receive. Do not include overtime pay if you only work over time sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours/wages reduced, use your current income.

We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income?

If you receive an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.

My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is his/her combat pay counted as income?

If the combat pay was not received prior to he/she was deployed and is received in addition to his/her basic pay due because of his/her deployment it should not be counted as income.