



School Nutrition News From

April 11, 2019

The information in this document helps support Goal 4, Strategy 4.1, of [MDE's Top 10 in 10 Initiative](#)ⁱ by helping to ensure students receive important nutritional resources to help them learn and grow.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

See the attached for CEP most frequently asked questions.

School Lunch Hero

Do you know a School Lunch hero? The School Nutrition Association (SNA) designates May 3 as School Lunch Hero Day. Check out the [SNA Website](#)ⁱⁱ for great resources to support your heroes.

We'd love to see your great promotions. Send your photos with copies of photo releases to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov

State Supplemental Payments

Please note that State Supplemental Breakfast (31f) and Lunch (31d) payments are included in April State Aid payments.

Not every district will receive a 31f payment – in fact we processed 195 supplemental payments. The 31f payment is calculated by comparing your revenues to costs reported on the 2018 Financial Information Database (FID). If district revenues exceed costs, there is no supplemental payment.

The 31d payment is also based on the costs reported on the FID. District April payments will include a prior year adjustment, which reconciles the Fiscal Year 2018 allowance, based on our most current data. This may be positive or negative, as the allowance was simply an estimate prior to submission of finalized FID data. The updated allowance for the remainder of the year is then set based on this data as well.

If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Crowley at crowleyw@michigan.gov.

[Michigan State Aid Act, 31d](#)

[Michigan State Aid Act, 31f](#)

School Meals Food Rescue and Backpacks

Last week a few articles on food rescue and school backpack programs made the rounds on social media. Since then we have received a lot of questions about the topic and whether or not it is allowable. We are currently in the process of researching rules, regulations, and food safety concerns. Once we have compiled the information, we will be issuing guidance and best practices. If anyone would like to share with us how your school or district is dealing with food waste, food rescue, and/or backpacks we would really appreciate the information for our research. Please email mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov if you would like to share.

School's Out, Food's In: Core Summer Meals Strategies to Overcome Transportation Barriers Webinar

Join No Kid Hungry and an expert from the social enterprise sector as they explore key success factors impacting mobile meals and the effective delivery of summer meals programming. This interactive session will help attendees identify the big questions that can help guide a solutions-based approach to transportation barriers. Furthermore, attendees will explore both the effectiveness and sustainability of common transportation solutions as well as alternative delivery options that may be useful at low-volume sites or highly remote areas. The webinar will also include a presentation of No Kid Hungry's updated Mobile Meals Toolkit and dedicated time for a discussion of specific challenges attendees have encountered in their communities.

When: Thursday, April 11, 2019, 2:00-3:00pm EDT

If unable to view the webinar at this date and time visit [No Kid Hungry Webinars](#)ⁱⁱⁱ for access to previous No Kid Hungry Webinars.

To Register: No Kid Hungry Webinar Registration

Michigan Child Nutrition Training Calendar

Michigan Child Nutrition Training Calendar: Please visit the [Michigan Child Nutrition Training Calendar](#),^{iv} a one-stop-shop calendar that lists child nutrition trainings across the state. If you wish to add your training to the calendar or have questions, contact mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov. The more trainings listed, the better the calendar will be!

Reminder – Upcoming Events

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) - School Nutrition Association (SNAM) June Nutrition Conference

Save the date! The MDE-SNAM June Nutrition Conference will be held June 18-20, 2019, at Shanty Creek Resorts in Bellaire, Michigan. Registration will go live by late April.

Registration is open to the public and will cater to a range of audiences involved in School Nutrition Programs. We hope to see you there!

School Meals Overview Training (SMOT)

This comprehensive training is for School Food Authorities (SFAs) and Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) and will cover items that staff must know to provide quality meals that adhere to the USDA guidelines. Pre-registration is required.

When: May 1, 8, and 15, 2019

Where: Erwin L. Davis Education Center, Flint, Michigan

For further information and registration information, visit SMOT Registration.

NOTE: Registration has been extended through April 19, 2019. Please disregard the April 12, 2019, deadline stated in the registration memo.

Targeted Training for School Nutrition Professionals Workshop

The staff of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) School Nutrition Programs unit is pleased to announce a hands-on, activity-based workshop for school nutrition professionals. This workshop is targeted to food service staff and will provide active sessions where participants can interact with MDE staff. The workshop consists of two days – Day One will cover nutrition related information and Day Two will cover administrative information. There is no cost for the workshop and participants are welcome to attend one or both days. Preregistration is required. Registration preference will be given to UP counties first. Please register for each day you plan to attend.

When: May 13 and 14, 2019

Where: Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency, Marquette, Michigan

For further information and registration information, visit Targeted Training Registration.

Questions of the Week

Question: My current State Aid report shows a different, lower amount in the Amount Column for 31d School Lunch. What happened?

Answer: The allowance for school lunch for the fiscal year is calculated and rolled forward based on the previous year's Financial Information Database (FID) data. In October, we rolled forward estimated calculations based on Fiscal Year 2017 data. Until we have new data from FID and other sources, the estimate remains as the amount of a district's allowance for school lunch. For April, we calculate a corrected allowance, using Fiscal Year 2018 data, and set the new allowance going forward.

Question: My current State aid shows zero in the Amount Column, and a negative current amount. It looks like the entire allowance is being taken back. What happened?

Answer: When districts fail to report correctly on the FID School Meals Report, there is a significant impact on State Supplemental Payments. In this case, the

district did not properly allocate costs to school lunch using the proper grant code. If expenditures are not allocated to the specific program, there will be no 31d allocation. This means that the previous estimate will change to zero, and estimated payments previously received will be recovered. It is imperative that districts double check and verify that there are no errors in their finalized FID data.

Question: Can this be corrected?

Answer: Unfortunately, No. The deadline for FID submission is typically mid to end of November, with a final date for all corrections submissions in early December. Our fiscal team works hard during this time to notify and assist districts with errors in their reporting, but not all districts respond to our attempts. In some cases, the reporting mistakes do not cause an error to be flagged in the School Lunch Report, for example, greatly reduced costs allocated to lunch, but not zero costs.

Once the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) closes the FID, it reports the data to federal sources, and can no longer be changed.

School Nutrition Programs
Office of Health and Nutrition Services
Michigan Department of Education
517-241-5374
www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Help raise awareness of Child Abuse Prevention by learning more from the Children's Trust Fund at www.michigan.gov/ctf



Children's Trust Fund
Protecting Michigan's Children

ⁱ<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-80635---,00.html>

ⁱⁱ<https://schoolnutrition.org/SLHD/>

ⁱⁱⁱ<http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars>

^{iv}<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=minutritiontraining%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FDetroit>

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Health and Nutrition Services
School Nutrition Programs

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Frequently Asked Questions

We have been receiving many inquiries about CEP. Below are a few of the most frequently asked questions.

How do I apply for CEP for School Year 2019-2020?

The Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+) application for the School Year 2019-2020 will be available in May 2019. If you are planning to apply for CEP, you will need to select it by clicking yes on question 12 on the *Sponsor Information* page and then complete the *Community Eligibility Provision Selection* page.

Where do I find information on the CEP?

The USDA [Community Eligibility Provision Resource Center](#)ⁱ is a great webpage for finding information on CEP.

What should I do to determine if CEP is an option for my school?

A first step in determining if CEP is financially feasible for your school/district is to complete the [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) Monthly Federal Reimbursement Estimator](#)ⁱⁱ on the USDA CEP Resource Center.

What is the number one thing I should know about CEP and other funding that is connected to my free and reduced-price eligible numbers?

First, even if you are entirely CEP, National School Lunch Program (NSLP) regulations require that you pull the Direct Certification report at least once during the school year. Best Practice would be to continue to pull it every time an updated report is available in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). Next, once you have pulled the Direct Certification report you still must Extend Eligibility out to all students that reside in households that have students on the Direct Certification report. Lastly, you will need to encourage households to complete and submit the Household Information Surveys. As long as funding from the non-profit school food service account is not used, creative incentives can be used to encourage households to fill the surveys out.

We are a CEP school and we have a Great Start Readiness Program classroom. We are claiming the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) morning and afternoon snacks in those classrooms. Can we claim those snacks all free?

No, the CEP rule only applies to the NSLP and School Breakfast Program that are claimed through the School Nutrition Programs. CEP does not cover the eligibility of any child when their meals or snacks are claimed in the CACFP. Household Eligibility would still need to be determined using the CACFP household eligibility form completed by a parent and then the meal or snack claimed as A, B, or C.

ⁱ <https://www.fns.usda.gov/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center>

ⁱⁱ <https://fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/cn/CEPEstimatorSY2018-19.xlsx>