



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 16, 2021

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent KG
Finance and Operations

SUBJECT: U. S. Department of Agriculture Programs and U.S. Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 Programs: Fact Sheet Clarification - MEMO #COVID-19-159

On January 4, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education (USED), Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, released a [fact sheet](#) titled *State-Administered Programs Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Nationwide Waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option through June 2021*.

The fact sheet notifies school officials about connections between the federal child nutrition programs and the state-administered formula programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) for school year 2020-2021. The two items specifically discussed are:

- 21st century community learning centers program and the allowability of the child and adult care food program (CACFP) at-risk afterschool program; and
- national school lunch program (NSLP) family income data and ESEA programs.

21st century community learning centers program and the CACFP at-risk afterschool program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued waivers for school year 2020-2021 that allow school nutrition program (SNP) sponsors to participate in both the extended summer food service program (SFSP) and the CACFP at-risk

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afterschool program during the school year. Typically, these child nutrition programs do not run during the same time. The USDA waivers extended the SFSP through June 30, 2021, and waived the area-eligibility requirement for CACFP at-risk afterschool programs. These waivers enable sponsors to expand their school nutrition programming and provide more nutritious meals and snacks to children in their community.

The CACFP at-risk afterschool program provides afterschool meals to children participating in afterschool programming, such as the 21st century programs, during the academic year. Afterschool program providers who have not participated previously can visit the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) CACFP website for more information on [At-Risk Afterschool Programming](#) and/or contact the MDE CACFP office at mde-cnp-cacfp@michigan.gov to find out more about program requirements, meal patterns, and how to apply.

National school lunch program (NSLP) family income data and ESEA programs

The USED [fact sheet](#) details the ESEA programs and how they use the NSLP family income data. To acknowledge that collecting the NSLP family income data may be a challenge this school year, MDE has released the following two memos:

- [Critical Funding Ramifications of Collecting Family Income Data – MEMO #COVID-19-130](#) – reiterates the importance of gathering family income data and properly reporting the school nutrition eligibility (SNE) designation in the Michigan student data system (MSDS).
- [Family Income Data Communication Resources – MEMO #COVID-19-133](#) - provides resources for communicating with parents and guardians on the importance of family income data for determining eligibility for free and reduced-price meals.

As the certification deadline for the state’s center for educational performance and information (CEPI) spring general collection is fast approaching, it is important to encourage the continued collection of family income data. Districts must continue to:

- pull the MSDS direct certification reports and extend eligibility to ensure students/households receive benefits for which they are eligible;
- collect and process free and reduced-price meal family applications for eligible households in non-community eligibility provision buildings;
- collect and process household information reports in community eligibility provision buildings; and
- report eligibility in the [Supplemental Nutrition Eligibility](#) (SNE) field in the MSDS.

MDE recognizes that this year has likely been the most difficult in modern history for local districts and continues to appreciate the hard work that supports the children and families of Michigan.

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Questions regarding USDA Child Nutrition Programs can be directed to Dr. Diane Golzynski at GolzynskiD@michigan.gov.

Questions regarding 21st century community learning centers can be directed to Lorraine Thoreson at thoresonl@michigan.gov.

Questions regarding all other ESEA programs can be directed to Fred Williams at williamsf3@michigan.gov.

Questions regarding the submission of data in MSDS can be directed to CEPI customer support at cepi@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors