



219 North Main Street, Suite 402  
Barre, VT 05641 (p) 802-479-1030 | (f) 802-479-1835

## **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**

October, 2014 Technical Assistance Alert

With the passage of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) now includes a new universal meal program, the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). CEP permits eligible schools to provide meal service to all students at no charge, regardless of economic status, and eliminates the need to obtain eligibility data from families. CEP schools use only direct certification data.

While NLSP and Title I are two separate programs, there has long been a connection as State Educational Agencies and LEAs use the data from the NLSP to carry out certain Title I requirements. Targeting & ranking eligible schools, choosing students for SES eligibility, and disaggregating low income students in the accountability system are all Title I requirements that have used school meals data. Schools that have chosen the Community Eligibility Provision have received a memo on how to collect family income data that may be used for Title I and other grant purposes. The [sample form and letter to parents](#) may be found on the AOE website. Choosing the Community Eligibility Provision will not affect a school's eligibility for Title I funds or the amount of funds they are allocated.