

School and LEA-Wide Benefits of High Free & Reduced Rates

Higher free and reduced percentages benefit both schools and communities.

- Schools with 50% or more free and reduced price eligible enrolled students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Child Nutrition Programs:
 - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)
 - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
 - NSLP Afterschool Snack Service area eligibility
 - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals
 - Receive a higher score on equipment grant application
- Benefits extend beyond the Child Nutrition world and into the greater learning community:
 - Distribution of Title I funds
 - Teacher Cancellation Low Income (TCLI) Loan forgiveness for teachers in certain low-income schools
 - E-Rate Program: federal reimbursement for telecommunications including internet, Wi-Fi, and upgrades to Wi-Fi. Local libraries can also take advantage of this opportunity.
 - Vermont Lottery Makerspace Grant eligibility
 - Equity determinations for state and federal accountability systems
 - Increased eligibility for state and federal grants for the school
 - May also increase federal and state funding for the town
- Aside from the immediate benefit that all free and reduced price students in Vermont can eat breakfast and lunch at no cost, other household-specific benefits include:
 - Qualification for Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) funds
 - Reduced or waived SAT fees and reduced college application fees
 - Qualification for Comcast Internet Essentials low-cost, high-speed internet access. All students in Provision 2 and Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools automatically qualify for this service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

