# SNP Memo #2023-2024-52


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: February 16, 2024

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

FROM: Sandra C. Curwood, PhD, RDN, ***Sandy***

## SUBJECT: Updated Community Eligibility Provision Guidance and Webinar

The purpose of this memo is to notify school food authorities (SFAs) about an upcoming webinar on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) hosted by the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The webinar will be Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. To attend, you [must register in advance for the webinar](https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItd-6rpjsuHo_35cXc2Jni8V1nI-jq2-k). A confirmation email with details for joining the webinar will be sent upon registration.

The USDA-FNS has also released updated resources for local SFAs to reflect changes made to CEP due to the final rule, [Child Nutrition Programs: Community Eligibility Provision – Increasing Options for Schools](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/fr-092623), effective October 26, 2023. The final rule lowered the minimum Identified Student Percentage (ISP) threshold from 40 percent to 25 percent. As a result, more students, households, and schools have the opportunity to experience CEP benefits. Resources will be made available on the [FNS website](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center). The following documents have been updated to reflect the new rule:

* SP 08-2024: Community Eligibility Provision Policy Memo
* Community Eligibility Provision Planning and Implementation Guidance
* SP 09-2024: Community Eligibility Provision: Guidance and Updated Q&As
* SP 10-2024: **Community Eligibility Provision: Statutory Annual Notification and Publication Requirements and School Year 2024-2025 Election Deadline**
* **Community Eligibility Provision Fact Sheet**

The Virginia Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (VDOE-SCNP) will provide more information on CEP in the near future including April 1 data collection. SFAs should continue their monthly direct certification matching to ensure the most up-to-date data ahead of the April 1 data collection. As direct certification rates improve, more schools may benefit from CEP and providing meals at no cost to all students.

### For more information or questions regarding CEP, please contact your assigned school nutrition programs regional specialist.

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