

## Poverty Percentages and Title I, A Funding

Guidance and clarification regarding school district “ranking and serving” under Title I, A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as it relates to free and reduced price lunch (FRPL) counts, Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the *Healthy, Hungry-Free Kids Act of 2010*, and Provision II of the *Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act*. The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) have worked together to provide the following information to school districts when allocating within-district Title I, A schools to the building level.

## Title I, Part A, Allocations to Schools Site

Federal Title I, Part A, funds are currently allocated primarily based on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state. Participating in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision II will not affect the total amount of Title I funds that a state or district receives (i.e. within-state allocations). However, participation can affect how Title I funds are allocated to each Title I school building (i.e. within-district allocations).

When annually determining the eligibility of a CEP or a Provision II school to receive Title I funds, districts must assume that the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the school is proportionate to the percentage of students meals that can be claimed at the Free, Reduce, and Paid rate for which that school is reimbursed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. To calculate this percentage, Provision II schools districts will use the approved lunch Free and Reduced claiming percent approved by NDA. For CEP schools, the district will use the Identified Student Percentage (ISP) multiplied by the 1.6 multiplier as specified by the Health, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010. Group rates for CEP will not be used.

Provision II example: Green Elementary has been a Provision II site since 2015-2016 and has not collected FRPL applications during this time. Green Elementary School’s lunch claiming percentages are:

- Free= 81.1 percent
- Reduced=10.3 percent
- Paid=8.6 percent

To calculate Green ES’s FRPL percentage:

$81.1\text{percent (Free claim rate)} + 10.3\text{ percent (reduced claim rate)} = 91.4\text{ percent FRPL percentage}$

CEP example: Blue ES participates in CEP as an individual school.

It is ISP is 60 percent (33 Direct Certification matches/55 total enrollment).

To calculate what Blue ES’s FRPL percentage would be:

$60\text{ percent (ISP)} \times 1.6\text{ (USDA multiplier)} = 96.0\text{ percent FRPL percent}$

If a school site participates in CEP group, the group rate will not apply.

It must be the individual ISP x 1.6 multiplier.

## **Title I, A Rank and Serve for CEP, Provision II and FRPL Schools for SY 2020-21**

1. NDE will use Infinite Campus (IC) reporting as the verification source (i.e. 'source of truth') to rank and serve schools in April 2020 for the 2020-21 school year. This data is reported and validated by NDE and NDA from the prior school year.
2. Districts must then match Department of Family Services (DFS) and NDE student information for Direct Certification every two weeks and must match prior to the April 1 data report from IC.
3. For Provision II schools, NDA uses the percentage that was determined the last time the school collected FRL forms/data, not 100 percent for the poverty percentage. For example, if the last time a school collected forms was 2014/15 and the percentage was 88.01 percent, this is the percentage listed on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) report for SY18/19.
4. For CEP schools, the NDA uses the individual ISP percentage determined after the multiplier is applied. A school's new percentage with the applied multiplier may indicate 76.30 percent; not the 47.67 percent on which the original multiplier was applied. This is the percentage listed on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) list for SY18/19.
5. CEP, Provision II and FRL poverty percentage and timeline(s) are determined by the NDA and NDE in alignment with U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Education reporting requirements.

### **Additional Resources**

#### **Community Eligibility Provisions (CEP) Planning and Implementation Guidance September 2016**

U.S. Department of Agriculture CEP Fact Sheet

U.S. Department of Agriculture Provisions II Guidance

For more information, please contact:

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