U.S. Department of Agriculture Community Eligibility Provision Impacts to Non-Child Nutrition Programs Regarding Poverty Data

E-rate Funding Impact

What poverty data should I use to report to USAC for determining discounts on services received under the E-rate program? Pending further guidance, schools utilizing the CEP may use the NSLP eligibility data regarding participation in the NSLP for the most recent funding year in which such schools did not participate in the CEP.

Accountability System and Other Reporting Impact

What source will be used to post poverty data to Report Card and for accountability reporting (i.e., State Board Achievement Index, AYP, etc.)? The data as it is reported in CEDARS will be used to calculate percentages for the poverty subgroup for any federal report, data on Report Card, AYP and the State Board Achievement Index. This means that any student identified as qualifying for free or reduced meals through the direct certification process, through the economic survey, or by being served in a program (i.e., migrant, homeless, head start, etc.) must be reported in CEDARS in the Student Attributes and Programs File (I) to indicate they are eligible for free/reduced meals.

How do I report the students as eligible for free/reduced price meals in CEDARS? This is done by coding the student record with a code of 19 – Free/Reduced Meals Participation/Eligibility in Element I06 – Attribute or Program Code and the pertinent code in Element I10 – Qualification Code.

The CEDARS manual can be found here: http://www.k12.wa.us/CEDARS/Manuals.aspx

A list of valid qualification codes can be found here: http://www.k12.wa.us/CEDARS/pubdocs/2014-15CEDARSDataManualAppendices.pdf, in Appendix X.