

Monthly Update



School Nutrition Programs

June 6, 2022

Distributed to the School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives Listserv and the Food Service Directors Listserv and posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New

SNP Administrative Update

Sponsors should make plans to attend SNP Administrative Update training. At least one representative from each Sponsor must participate in the SNP Administrative Update.

Live virtual training options via zoom include:

- SNP Administrative Update – June 7, 8:30 am–12:30 pm
<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/85861366098?pwd=cW5ZYWE5bTJlaWhUR1hoaW5tMkExZz09>
- SNP Administrative Update for RCCI's – June 9, 9:00 am–12:00 pm
<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/81654221193?pwd=aHZocUYrOHBNDBtdnZ5NnRSTVVGUT09>
- SNP Administrative Update/CACFP Administrative Workshop – July 6, 8:00 am–12:00 pm
<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/88432205471?pwd=VIQ4Q2NKbmcvelY1djdFVk9KWFVVGQT09>

Sponsors unable to attend a live virtual session will have the opportunity to take the training through the KSDE Learning Portal at a later date.

Carryover Eligibility and PLE Guidance

KSDE has updated its School Meals for School Year 2022-23 – Questions and Answers with the following Questions and Answers which can be found at www.kn-eat.org, SNP, What's New. This includes guidance of how to elect waiver flexibilities for carryover eligibility and paid lunch equity. Updated and new Questions and Answers are included below.

Carryover Eligibility

Q: Can schools carryover eligibility status from the most recent free and reduced price application eligibility determination or direct certification data for each particular student?

A: Yes. USDA has provided guidance that the most recent data back to SY 2019-20 can be used for up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first).

Q. How does a Sponsor elect Waiver 26: Carryover Eligibility to use carryover eligibility status from the most recent free and reduced price application eligibility determinations back to SY 2019-20 or Direct Certification data from SY 2020-21 or SY 2019-20?

A. Sponsors must request Waiver 26: Carryover Eligibility by completing the survey at the following link: https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0iwl98i56C3o99A

Q. Are schools required to use the most recent data back to SY 2019-20 for each particular student for carryover?

A: No. Schools can choose not to provide carryover based on applications from previous school years. This is a local level decision that should be discussed with school administration.



Q. Will schools need school board minutes to support using the carryover waiver (Waiver #26) allowing for use of the most recent data back to SY 2019-20 for each particular student for carryover?

A. No. Schools will opt into the carryover waiver by completed the following survey:

https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0iwl98i56C3o99A

School board minutes will not be required to elect the waiver. Schools are strongly encouraged to visit with administration when determining whether to utilize the carryover waiver.

Q. Is carryover status based on the student's verified status or the student's original application status?

A. Carryover would be based on the student's verified status if a student's application was selected for verification.

Paid Lunch Equity (PLE)

Q: Why is Kansas applying for the statewide waiver flexibility for Paid Lunch Equity when all Kansas sponsors are required to keep a positive balance within its food service fund?

A: Applying for this statewide waiver would allow schools to utilize food service funds to decrease the paid meal price for lunch for households assisting in the transition back to normal operations.

Q. How does a Sponsor elect Waiver 25: Paid Lunch Equity to use Federal Food Service funds to offset the paid lunch meal prices for SY 2022-23?

A. Sponsors must request Waiver 25: Paid Lunch Equity by completing the survey at the following link: https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9QtdeFy9XixitpA

Q: Are schools required to review their paid lunch prices to ensure compliance with the paid lunch equity requirement using the USDA Paid Lunch Equity Tool (PLE)?

A: Only School Food Authorities with a negative balance in the nonprofit food service account as of December 31, 2021 are required to establish a price for paid lunches served through the National School Lunch Program that complies with the paid lunch equity provisions during SY 2022-23. Waiver 25: Paid Lunch Equity does not need to be requested for use of this flexibility.

Q: Can schools choose to waive paid price charges for students?

A: It depends. Schools may choose to:

- Provide universal free breakfast for all students.
 - Covering the cost of breakfast meals served to students certified for reduced price or paid meals is an allowable use of the nonprofit school food service account as long as the school food authority has sufficient funds to do so.
 - Prior to implementing this option, school food authorities are advised to conduct a thorough analysis of their current and projected operating costs to ensure that they are able to maintain operations and meal quality without the revenue generated from charging students for paid and reduced price breakfast meals.
- Allow students who qualify for reduced price meals to eat free of charge for both breakfast and lunch.
- Universal free lunch is not allowable due to the paid lunch equity tool requirements, unless a Sponsor elects Waiver #25: Paid Lunch Equity that allows Sponsors to use Federal Food Service funds to offset paid lunch meal prices for School Year 2022-23 only.



Important Town Hall Tuesday at 9 AM on June 28

Plan now to join the Child Nutrition & Wellness team on June 28 at 9:00 am for a **Town Hall that will include important information about Direct Certification with Medicaid** at:

<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/93001580396?pwd=ZlliMTVuemh3d0VoVU80aGVQcmpuZz09>

Determining Eligibility Training at 2 PM on June 29

Plan now to join the Child Nutrition & Wellness team on June 29 at 2:00 pm for Determining Eligibility training at <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/85130711172?pwd=TmpxZHVHd1RmcEhQalBnLytRWEU2QT09>. This is important training for all determining officials!

Looking forward to “seeing” you on Zoom tomorrow morning!



For more information, contact:

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