

Benefits of Having Higher Free & Reduced Percentages

Higher free and reduced percentages benefit individual households, 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)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals
- Offer open meal sites in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Offer free snacks to all students in NSLP Afterschool Snack Service
- 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 for schools and local libraries.
- Vermont Lottery Makerspace Grant eligibility
- Equity determinations for state and federal accountability systems
- Increased eligibility for state and federal grants for the school

Note: For these non-child nutrition program purposes, schools may also use data collected through the Household Income Form. Schools should use the Household Income Form when operating the Community Eligibility Provision or a non-base year of Provision 2.

Aside from the immediate benefit that all free and reduced-price eligible students in Vermont can eat breakfast and lunch at no cost, other household-specific benefits include:

- Reduced or waived SAT, ACT and college application fees*
- Qualification for [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#)*
 - \$30/month discount in internet, one-time \$100 discount on computer or tablet
- Qualification for [Comcast Internet Essentials](#) free high-speed internet access.*

**All students in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools automatically qualify for these benefits, but students at Provision 2 schools only qualify for these benefits if they qualify for free and reduced-price meals.*

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

