



# Clayton County Public Schools

Building A Better Tomorrow, Today!

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## ADVISORY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Division of Communications, Public Relations, Marketing & Strategic Improvement

July 17, 2025

### CCPS Continues Community Eligibility Provision Program

**JONESBORO** - Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) announces that it will continue to implement the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Program in School Year 2025-2026. Through CEP, every school in the district will offer meals at no cost to all students. This eliminates the procedure of distributing and processing free and reduced meal applications. CCPS recertified its CEP participation in 2024, and CEP is set to conclude on June 30, 2028 if not renewed by the Clayton County Board of Education or is discontinued or modified by the nationwide budget cuts in education.

Audrey Hamilton, Executive Director of Nutrition Services, is thankful for the opportunity to bring the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to Clayton County Public Schools over the past 13 years.

"Implementing CEP in Clayton County has truly been a gift to our families," Hamilton shared. "By providing free school meals to all students, we've removed the burden of meal costs for families while supporting student health and academic success. This program continues to deliver meaningful benefits for students, families, and the entire school community."

- Ensures equitable meal costs regardless of income.
- Eases financial stress for families by covering meal expenses.
- Eliminates issues with unpaid meal charges
- Reduces administrative workload and costs associated with meal application processing.

The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 includes the implementation of CEP to ensure that every student can participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). To qualify, a district or school must have 40 percent or more of Identified Student Percentage (ISP) to be eligible for meals at no cost over a four-year period.

#### USDA Non-Discrimination Statements

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17-Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**-An official document from the Clayton County Public School System-**

**About Clayton County Public Schools:** Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by Cognia. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 50,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the sixth-largest school system in Georgia.

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