

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION

SAMPLE LETTER – SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Dear [NAME],

I am writing to invite you to participate in an exciting, new effort to help end childhood hunger in [SCHOOL DISTRICT].

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a key provision of The Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, allows the nation’s highest poverty districts and schools to serve all students free meals without the burden of collecting household applications. This alternative saves districts and schools time and money by streamlining paperwork and administrative requirements. CEP gives food service professionals more time to focus on preparing nutritious meals their students will enjoy, and gives students more time to eat those meals by cutting down on time spent in the lunch line. Because all students receive meals at no charge, individual children at CEP schools no longer have to worry about the stigma associated with free or reduced price status. And most importantly, by offering all students a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, CEP helps boost participation, helping schools ensure more students come to class well-nourished and ready to learn. For more information, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/community-eligibility-provision>.

CEP may be adopted district-wide, at individual schools, or at a group of schools within a district. [In the following sentences, give examples of specific schools in the district that would benefit from CEP].

As superintendent of [SCHOOL DISTRICT], you understand that children need a healthy breakfast and lunch to be ready to learn. We hope that [SCHOOL DISTRICT] will join this new effort to connect more students to nutritious school meals by adopting CEP in school year [20XX-20XX].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

TITLE