

# Transfer Student Eligibility

## Ensuring Access and Confidentiality



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# Agenda

- Background
- USDA Requirements
- Group Discussion:
  - Solving Eligibility
  - Information Sharing
  - Challenges with Lots of Brain Power



# Objectives

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## Learning Objectives:

- Understand Requirements & Best Practices
- How to proceed confidently when transfer students enter/leave your SFA

## Opportunities to:

- Discuss technical assistance
- Share best practices





# Background

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# Student Transfers: Frequency & Challenges



- Most students change schools at least once (K-8)\*
  - Low-income & minority students more often
- Changing schools can hurt academic achievement
- Social & emotional challenges

Source: U.S. Government Accountability Office. (2010). *Many Challenges Arise in Educating Students Who Change Schools Frequently*. (GAO Publication No. 11-40). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

# Sharing Transfer Student Eligibility

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- Students arrive without records (or with incomplete records)
- Transitions can be challenging: Important to ensure students have access to school meals during transition



# Requirements

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# Considerations



- **Location**
  - Within LEA
  - Between LEAs
- **School Meal Operations**
  - Standard Operations (processes applications)
  - Special Provisions
- **Timing**
  - During the School Year (transfer)
  - Between School Years (carryover)

This presentation is about Transfer Eligibility or students changing schools during the school year (SY)



## Transfer: Student moves to a school in the same LEA



### Standard Operating → Standard Operating

- Student eligibility required to transfer

### Provision school → Standard Operating school

- Student receives free meals for up to 10 days, or until a new eligibility determination (whichever comes first)
- State discretion to extend free meals to 30 days

Source: 7 CFR 245.3(c) and 245.9(l)



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# Transfer: Student moves to a school in a different LEA



## Standard Operating → Standard Operating

- Student eligibility transfer encouraged
- Receiving school not liable for errors

## Provision school → Standard Operating

- Student receives free meals for up to 10 days\*, or until a new eligibility determination (whichever comes first)
- State discretion to extend free meals to 30 days

**\*encouraged immediately; required by July 1, 2019 (SY 2019-20)**

Source: 7 CFR 245.9(I)



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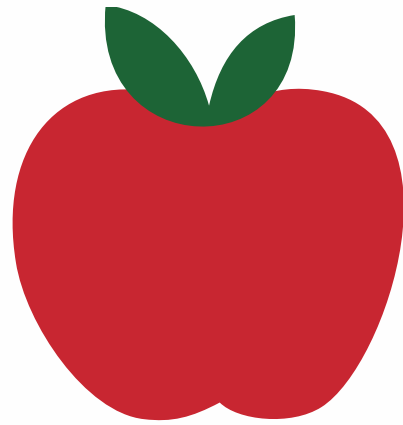


## State Agency Discretion



**Students transferring from  
Provision → Standard Operating schools  
may receive free meals for up to  
30 days, or until new eligibility  
determination (whichever comes first)**





# Best Practices

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## Sharing Eligibility Information

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- Include eligibility status on student transfer paperwork
  - Indicate if student's previous school was a Provision school
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# Sharing Eligibility Information

- State agencies share with LEAs: lists or database of Provision schools





# Questions?

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# Let's Discuss! Solving Transfer Eligibility Challenges with Lots of Brain Power



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# What challenges are associated with sharing eligibility information between LEAs?



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# What are some solutions or best practices to help with challenges?





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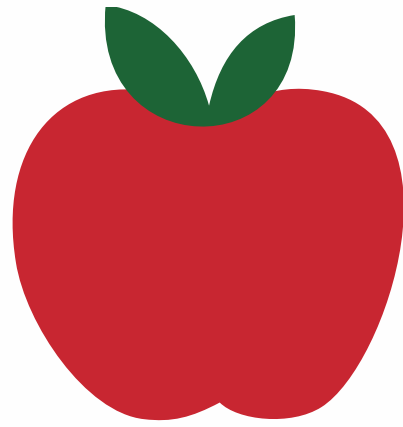


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# Questions?

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# Thank you!

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