

Letter to Households

Date: July 12, 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to let you know that all schools in Essex County School Division will be implementing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for school year 2023-2024. CEP allows eligible schools participating in the USDA National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to provide meals at no cost to all students without meal applications.

**What does this mean for you and your student(s) attending the school(s) identified above?**

Great news! All students attending any school in Essex County School Division are eligible to receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch at school at **no charge** to your household each school day. You do not have to take any action. The student(s) in your household who attend a participating CEP school will receive a complete breakfast and lunch meal at no cost without you paying a fee or submitting a meal application.

If you have questions or need help, please contact your school cafeteria manager directly.

Sincerely,

James Keith Conner

Supervisor, School Nutrition Programs

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, audiotape, 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-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.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](http://mailto:program.intake@usda.gov/)

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