



Maryland Hunger Solutions

Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Community Eligibility Creates Hunger-Free Schools

Community eligibility allows schools with a high percentage of low-income students to provide access to free school breakfast and lunch to all students — essentially becoming **Hunger-Free Schools**.

In the 2016-2017 school year, 229 Maryland schools participated in community eligibility and as a result, more than 98,000 students attended a Hunger-Free School. However, more than 160 additional schools in Maryland are eligible to elect the Community Eligibility Provision. In fact, the entire school districts of **Allegany, Dorchester, and Wicomico** counties are eligible to join Baltimore City and Somerset County Public Schools in adopting community eligibility district-wide.

In addition, the 26 Maryland schools listed on the following page are eligible at the highest reimbursement rate — meaning that if they elect community eligibility, at least 90 percent of all school meals served will be reimbursed by the federal government at the highest rate. These “highly eligible” schools include:

- Five schools in Dorchester County
- Five in Wicomico County
- Three in Allegany County
- Three in Anne Arundel County
- Three in Caroline County

One school in each of the following counties is also highly eligible, but not currently participating:

- Baltimore County
- Cecil County
- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Montgomery County
- St. Mary’s County

The deadline for new schools to elect community eligibility for the coming school year is **June 30, 2017**.

Maryland Schools with Reimbursement Rates > 90% of All Meals Served that are Eligible, but Not Participating in Community Eligibility

| School District | School | Enrollment | ISP | School Meal Reimbursement Rate |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|------|--------------------------------|
| Allegany Co. | Eckhart Alternative Program | 14 | 64% | 100% |
| Allegany Co. | John Humbird Elementary | 270 | 75% | 100% |
| Allegany Co. | South Penn Elementary | 530 | 62% | 99% |
| Anne Arundel Co. | Eastport Elementary | 272 | 56% | 90% |
| Anne Arundel Co. | Georgetown East Elementary | 386 | 59% | 95% |
| Anne Arundel Co. | Mary Moss @ J. Albert Adams Academy | 72 | 57% | 91% |
| Baltimore Co. | Dundalk Elementary | 697 | 56% | 90% |
| Caroline Co. | Family Support Center | 106 | 77% | 100% |
| Caroline Co. | Federalsburg Elementary | 491 | 57% | 92% |
| Caroline Co. | Judy Center Early Headstart | 82 | 84% | 100% |
| Cecil Co. | Thomson Estates Elementary | 527 | 58% | 93% |
| Dorchester Co. | Choptank Elementary | 410 | 78% | 100% |
| Dorchester Co. | Maces Lane Middle | 528 | 60% | 95% |
| Dorchester Co. | Maple Elementary | 502 | 66% | 100% |
| Dorchester Co. | New Directions Learn. Acad. (Alt. School) | 18 | 83% | 100% |
| Dorchester Co. | Sandy Hill Elementary | 438 | 67% | 100% |
| Frederick Co. | Rock Creek School | 77 | 66% | 100% |
| Harford Co. | Halls Cross Roads Elementary | 519 | 57% | 91% |
| Kennedy Krieger | Early Head Start Program | 140 | 100% | 100% |
| Montgomery Co. | Blair G Ewing Center | 116 | 59% | 95% |
| St. Mary's Co. | George Washington Carver Elementary | 640 | 60% | 95% |
| Wicomico Co. | Beaver Run Elementary | 501 | 63% | 100% |
| Wicomico Co. | East Salisbury Elementary | 459 | 59% | 95% |
| Wicomico Co. | Pinehurst Elementary | 530 | 56% | 90% |
| Wicomico Co. | Wicomico Alternative Center | 59 | 68% | 100% |
| Wicomico Co. | Wicomico Early Learning Center | 128 | 77% | 100% |
| TOTAL | | 8,512 Students | | |

Notes: ISP is the Identified Student Percentage; School Meal Reimbursement Rate is the percentage of school meals served that will be reimbursed by the federal government at the highest rate.

Data source: [Maryland Department of Education](#)