



KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL  
Commissioner

BETTY A. ROSA  
Commissioner

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** School Food Authorities (SFAs)

**FROM:** The Department of Agriculture and Markets and The New York State Education Department

**DATE:** March 28, 2024

**SUBJECT:** UPDATED: Community Eligibility Provision State Subsidy and how it will impact the 30% NYS Initiative  
*\*\*This updates the June 22, 2023 memo from the Department of Agriculture and Markets.\*\**

The Department of Agriculture and Markets (AGM) and The New York State Education Department (NYSED), after careful review of the statute authorizing the 30% NYS Initiative and consultation with the Division of Budget, have concluded that because Section 925 of the Education Law requires total reimbursement for all CEP meals at an amount equal to the total State and federal free reimbursement rate, effective immediately, **all successful applicants of the program will receive the 30% NYS Initiative reimbursement at the established rate of \$0.1901 for all lunches in the paid reimbursement category**, consistent with prior school years and with the 30% NYS Initiative reimbursement for all lunches in the free reimbursement category, before any other State subsidies.

This decision will be applied retroactively for 2023-24 payments resulting from successful 2022-23 applications. All participating schools whose subsidy has been reduced due to State CEP participation will be reimbursed for all their State CEP-qualifying lunches shortly.

Please follow the standard Application Process for SFAs applying to the 30% NYS Initiative for the 2023-24 school year. For more questions on the [30% Application Process](#), please see the “Guidance” section on the 30% New York State Initiative webpage.

- [Application Process – 30% Initiative](#) Instructions Document  
URL: <https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/application-process-30-initiative>
- Webpage for the [30% New York State Initiative](#)  
URL: <https://agriculture.ny.gov/30-percent-initiative>

Please feel free to reach out to the 30% NYS Initiative Team at the Department of Agriculture and Markets via email at [30percent@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:30percent@agriculture.ny.gov) or by phone at (518) 485-1050 with any questions pertaining to the program.

For more information on the CEP Subsidy and reimbursement rates, please see the NYSED’s memo regarding the [Community Eligible Provision \(CEP\) State Subsidy](#), or contact the Child Nutrition Program Administration at NYSED via email at [cn@nysed.gov](mailto:cn@nysed.gov) or by phone at (518) 473-8781.

- NYSED's memo for the [Community Eligible Provision \(CEP\) State Subsidy](https://www.cn.nysed.gov/content/community-eligibility-provision-cep-state-subsidy)  
URL: <https://www.cn.nysed.gov/content/community-eligibility-provision-cep-state-subsidy>