



## SNAP in Schools 101

### What is SNAP and SNAP in Schools?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) provides monthly grocery benefits on a “debit-like” card to purchase food at places people normally shop like grocery stores, farmers market, and online.

- SNAP is the largest federal anti-hunger program and the largest child nutrition program in the U.S.
- Serves all ages and people. Any U.S. citizen and certain lawfully present non-citizens can receive benefits if they qualify.
- The program operates nationwide and in some U.S. territories. It may have a different name in your state, for example in California it's called CalFresh and in Wisconsin it's FoodShare.

SNAP in Schools is an approach that helps connect eligible families to SNAP benefits in trusted school settings. By meeting families where they already are, SNAP in Schools helps increase food security and support student well-being.

### Why is SNAP Important for Schools?

Kids that live in households receiving SNAP are directly certified for free school meals which means no need to collect meal applications and more directly certified students increases meal access and school revenue. Kids that live in households receiving SNAP are directly certified for free school meals which means they automatically qualify for free school meals and there's no need to collect meal applications from them.

- Kids have the food they need to learn and stay healthy.
- Higher Identified Student Percentage (ISP) makes Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) more possible helping reach more kids with free school meals.
- Saves staff time and administrative costs while boosting school nutrition revenue.
- Secures more money for education programs.

### What is the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)?

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a school meal funding option of the National School Lunch Act that enables schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. Schools receive funding based on a formula that relies on data from other sources, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).



Learn more about SNAP in Schools, best practices, implementation, and No Kid Hungry's SNAP in Schools work by scanning the QR code