

Nutrition Fuels Education: Resources for High-Poverty Schools

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Opportunity

California’s Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and the federal school nutrition programs both aim to provide low-income students with access to essential resources. Provision 2 and the Community Eligibility Provision are federally authorized administrative options that increase access to free school meals for students attending high-poverty schools.

Making LCFF compatible with Provision 2 and the Community Eligibility Provision will ensure that both state and federal resources are directed where they are needed the most.

	Provision 2	Community Eligibility Provision	Local Control Funding Formula
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Students in high-poverty schools access free meals ➔ More students are served through innovative programs like Classroom Breakfast ➔ Decreased burden on families ➔ Decreased administrative burden on schools and school districts 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ More education funding is directed to students in need of additional resources.
Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine each student’s household income once every four years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine each student’s household income without an application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine each student’s household income each year.



Provision 2 and the Community Eligibility Provision are threatened: fewer nutrition resources reach low-income students.

Action

Preserve the benefits of Provision 2 and the Community Eligibility Provision for high-poverty schools and their students as LCFF is implemented.

Why This Matters

Hungry students cannot learn, grow, or achieve at their fullest potential. Low-income students and high-poverty schools need access to education resources – and those resources should include nutrition! Provision 2 and the Community Eligibility Provision improve low-income students’ access to school meals while decreasing burdens on families, schools, and school districts. More than 3 million students in California are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. Like all students, they deserve to be well nourished and fueled for success.

For more than 20 years, CFPA has been the state’s trusted food policy advocacy organization dedicated to increasing low-income Californians’ access to healthy food at home, at school, and throughout entire communities. CFPA’s advocacy agenda draws on the anti-hunger, nutrition, and health movements. Working as both a policy leader and supportive policy ally, CFPA continues to build on its long history of success.