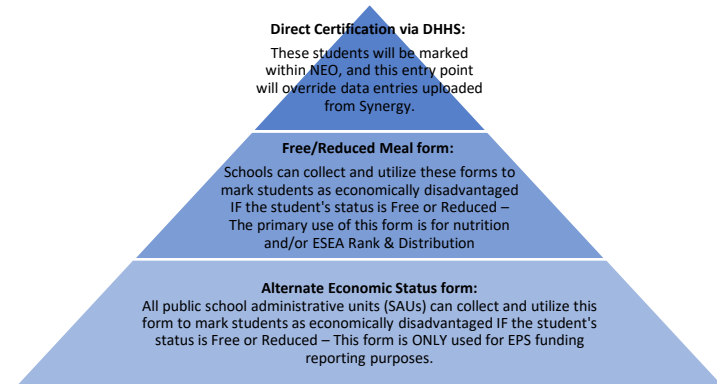


Economic Status

Economically disadvantaged students are students who are eligible for free/reduced meal status. A student can be identified as eligible for free/reduced meal status by

- Direct Certification from DHHS
- Application for Free/Reduced meals
- Alternate Economic Status Form



Direct Certification

- Available in the NEO Nutrition Module to Superintendents and Food Service Directors.
- Highly confidential; access is restricted to only Superintendents and Food Service Directors.
- NEO validates that students who qualify for Direct Certification are indicated on EPS Reports.

Free and Reduced Meal Applications

- Used primarily for Child Nutrition purposes.
- Can also be used to identify student economic status for EPS reporting

Alternate Economic Status Form Use

- **ONLY used for EPS Funding reporting**
- Entered into State Synergy by Data Staff in SAUs – Nutrition Staff should NOT be using these forms.
- For SY 2023/24 students who qualify as economically disadvantaged via the Alternate Economic Status Form can be entered into State Synergy as either **Reduced or Free** status via Economic Status Uploads or manual entry on the Economic Status screen.
- Retain records at the SAU of students identified using the Alternate Economic Status Form.

Traditional Meal Operations	Special Provision II BASE YEAR	Special Provision II NON-BASE YEAR	Community Eligibility Provision
<p>Collect Free/Reduced Meal Applications - used for both School Nutrition and EPS Reporting purposes.</p> <p>Also:</p> <p>Collect the Alternate Economic Status Form – ONLY for EPS Reporting</p>	<p>Collect Free/Reduced Meal Applications - used for both School Nutrition and EPS Reporting purposes.</p> <p>Also:</p> <p>Collect the Alternate Economic Status Form – ONLY for EPS Reporting</p>	<p>Collect the Alternate Economic Status Form – ONLY for EPS Reporting</p>	<p>Collect the Alternate Economic Status Form – ONLY for EPS Reporting</p>