

Special Provision Option: A Comparison

	CEP	Provision 1	Provision 2	Provision 3
Period of Eligibility	Up to 4 years	Up to 2 years	Up to 4 years	Up to 4 years
Eligibility Threshold	40% ISP	80% Free/Reduced	None	None
Program Participation	NSLP & SBP Mandatory	NSLP, SBP, or Both	NSLP, SBP, or Both	NSLP, SBP, or Both
Eligibility Determinations	Direct Certification, no applications	Direct Certification and applications	Direct Certification and applications	Direct Certification and applications
Frequency of Application Collections	Never	Every 2 years	Every 4 years, at most	Every 4 years, at most
Frequency of Direct Certification	Once a year (at a minimum)	Once a year (at a minimum)	Once a year (at a minimum)	Once a year (at a minimum)
Cycle Extensions	Not available	Unlimited, if remains at least 80% Free/Reduced	Unlimited, if no minimal change in socioeconomic data	Unlimited, if no minimal change in socioeconomic data
Claiming Percentages	ISP x 1.6	Based on actual claiming percentages in year 1 (base year)	Based on actual claiming percentages in year 1 (base year)	Based on level of Federal aid reimbursed in year 0 (base year)
Non-Federal Funds	Required when Federal assistance does not match or exceed costs	Required when Federal assistance does not match or exceed costs	Required when Federal assistance does not match or exceed costs	Required when Federal assistance does not match or exceed costs
Grouping or District-wide Elections	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ideal When...	Many Students are certified without applications	Over 80% Free/Reduced	Many students are low-income, but cannot be directly certified	Very stable or fixed population
Provision Regulations	245.9(f) & 7 CFR 245.9(f)(4)(ix)	245.9(a) & N/A	245.9(b-c)	245.9(d-e)