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## **School and LEA-Wide Benefits of High Free and Reduced Rates**

Higher free and reduced percentages benefit schools and communities.

Schools with at least 50%, or more, free and reduced-price meal enrolled students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Child Nutrition programs:

- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- After School Snack Service area eligibility
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals
- Receive a higher score on equipment grant application

Benefits extend beyond the Child Nutrition world and into the greater learning community:

- Distribution of Title I funds
- Teacher Cancellation Low Income (TCLI) Loan forgiveness for teachers in certain low-income schools
- E-Rate Program: federal reimbursement for telecommunications, including internet, Wi-Fi, even upgrades to Wi-Fi! Local libraries can also take advantage of this opportunity.
- Vermont Lottery Makerspace Grant eligibility
- Equity determinations for state and federal accountability systems
- Increased eligibility for state and federal grants for the school
- May also increase federal and state funding for the town

Aside from the fact that all free *and reduced-price* students in Vermont can eat breakfast and lunch at no cost, other household-specific benefits include:

- Reduced or waived SAT fees and reduced college application fees
- Qualify for Comcast Internet Essentials low-cost, high-speed internet access. All students in Provision 2 and CEP schools automatically qualify for this service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.