

Reduced Price Lunch Protection Program and Start Smart	
1.	<p><b>Is the SFA in compliance with SB 08-123 and SB 09-033 by not charging students covered by Reduced Price Lunch Protection Program the reduced price paid for lunch?</b></p> <p><b>Tips:</b> Colorado Senate Bills (08-123, 09-033, 14-1156, 18-013, and 19-1171) allow school districts to provide lunches at no charge for children in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade participating in the National School Lunch Program who would otherwise be required to pay a reduced price for lunch. SFAs may not charge reduced price students the \$0.40 co-payment in grades PK-12 for lunch. Participating students still have a reduced price status, and the SFA is to claim their meals as reduced price. SFAs must track meals served to reduced price students in grades PK-12. SFAs enter a claim in the CO Child Nutrition Hub for the total number of lunches served to reduced price students and state funds reimburse SFAs the co-payments for these meals.</p>
2.	<p><b>Are claims being filed correctly regarding the Reduced Price Lunch Protection Program (i.e., claiming these meals as reduced for the federal claim)?</b></p> <p><b>Tips:</b> The federal claim must still include reduced price lunches for PK-12. A common mistake is SFAs claiming all of these students as free. Students who qualify for reduced price meals must be claimed as reduced. The claim system will reimburse the SFA for the additional state funding for these meals. During the review, School Nutrition will check to ensure reduced price meals are being claimed accurately</p>
3.	<p><b>Is the SFA in compliance with SB 07-059 by not charging students in all grades for the reduced price for breakfast?</b></p> <p><b>Tips:</b> Reduced students in any grade should not be charged for breakfast. School Nutrition will randomly check accounts to ensure compliance.</p>
4.	<p><b>Are claims being filed correctly regarding the Start Smart Program (i.e., claiming these meals as reduced for the federal claim)?</b></p> <p><b>Tips:</b> The federal claim still should include reduced price breakfasts for all students. A common mistake is when SFAs claim all of these students as free. Students who qualify for reduced price meals must be claimed as reduced price. The claim system will automatically adjust the reimbursement rates for these meals to include the additional state funding. During the review, School Nutrition will check to ensure there are reduced price meals included on breakfast claims.</p> <p><b>Resources:</b> <a href="http://www.cde.state.co.us/nutrition/nutritionlineclaimsandservices">http://www.cde.state.co.us/nutrition/nutritionlineclaimsandservices</a></p>