



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

June 27, 2022

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** New Direct Certification Medicaid PowerSchool Lunch Codes

As announced December 16, 2021, Alabama is one of eight states selected by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to participate in a demonstration project to evaluate the impact of using Medicaid eligibility data to directly certify students. The goal of this project is to expand direct certification of children receiving Medicaid benefits to receive **free and reduced priced school meals**. The project should also facilitate streamlined access to the school meals programs, as well as increase program integrity.

In an ongoing effort to provide up-to-date student eligibility data to schools within your district, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is working with PowerSchool to import official lunch codes. The 2022-2023 PowerSchool Lunch Codes release will be available for import by local education agencies (LEAs) on July 1, 2022. The new meal status codes will be pushed to PowerSchool and posted on the Break for a Plate website at the following link: [PowerSchool Lunch Codes - Break for a Plate](#).

Please review the attached New Direct Certification Medicaid PowerSchool Lunch Codes thoroughly for guidance. Program Operators should direct any questions concerning this guidance to the School Programs staff at (334) 694-4657 or email at [cnpslp@alsde.edu](mailto:cnpslp@alsde.edu).

EGM/NS/MA

cc: Child Nutrition Directors

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