

The Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) section of the Alabama State Department of Education is in the process of ensuring compliance with federal civil rights regulations in School Meal Programs. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) require all School Meal Program sponsors to collect race and ethnicity data of applicants and participants.

- (1) the purpose for collecting race and ethnicity data is to determine how effectively School Meal Programs are reaching potentially eligible students
- (2) provision of this data is voluntary
- (3) responses are kept confidential, and
- (4) responses have no effect on eligibility