The DPI CNFD office has received many questions about the new Medicaid Direct Certification. To help address these concerns, we have compiled a list of questions and answers to clarify many of the issues schools may be experiencing. Please let us know if we can help with any other issues or need further clarification.

- **Backdating Eligibility:** Schools may "backdate" the eligibility date of the students to November 1, 2024. The normal practice is to use the "eligible date", however since November claims have not been submitted, and many of these students may have negative balances, we are allowing this exception to go back to the first date in November.
- **Extending Eligibility within Households:** If one student in a household is listed with Medicaid Eligibility (DHS-MR or DHS-MF), and one student is not, the eligibility can be extended to any student in the eligible household.
- **Students with Multiple Eligibilities**
  - If a student was approved as free, based on an application earlier this year, and now they are on the STARS DC list as Medicaid Reduced (DHS-MR) , the free application overrides the DC Reduced Medicaid status.
    - **This is the only instance where an application supersedes a DC Status.**
  - If a student was approved as free based on application and now they are on the STARS DC list as Medicaid Free (DHS-MF), the DC status overrides the application and they should be listed as FDC in Powerschool
  - This does not affect what the household pays for meals (all no charge) but it affects where you get your reimbursement money from: for the free eligible meals, all the reimbursement dollars will come from the federal government. For a reduced meal: the majority of reimbursement will come from the federal government while the State will pick up the reduced-price meal fee ($.30 for breakfast and $.40 for lunch). Please see the hierarchy we created on our website.
- **Declining Free Meal Benefits:** If a household does not wish for their child to receive meals at no charge, please remember to document their decision and keep the signed paperwork with the rest of your applications. A template can be found on our website
- **Broadcast Notifications:** Homeschool students, some PreK or students placed out of the district often appear on the "broadcast" notifications. These students should not be enrolled in your system, if they do not attend school in the district.
- **PowerSchool DC Categories:** In PowerSchool, *Free DC (FDC) students* include students that are qualified for free based on Medicaid Free (DHS-MF), SNAP (DHS-FS), TANF (DHS-AF), Homeless, Migrant, Runaway or Foster. *Reduced DC (RDC) students* are students that qualified based on Medicaid Reduced (DHS-MR).
- **Verification Summary Report:** The Verification Summary report should represent the enrollment numbers on **October 31st.** Please a 0 on the Verification Summary report when it asks for students directly certified through Medicaid as Free or Reduced.
- **Notification Letter:** A letter template to send to students who qualify based on Medicaid Free or Reduced can be found on our website
- **Additional Resources:**
  - You can also find helpful information in the "New Medicaid Direct Certification Webinar" in Other Webinars [UPDATES | North Dakota Department of Public Instruction](UPDATES)
- **STARS DC Report Tips:** If you are having trouble printing the STARS DC report, you can export to CSV and it will provide an excel document that you can sort and filter.