

(2) THE PROGRAM IS A JOINT EFFORT OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND THE COUNTY BOARDS OR SPONSORING AGENCIES FOR ELIGIBLE NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS, ~~AND BUSINESS ENTITIES IN THE STATE.~~

~~(B)~~ (C) (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A SCHOOL THAT MAKES AN IN-CLASSROOM ~~AN IN-CLASSROOM~~ BREAKFAST AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL.

(2) THE FUNDING IS INTENDED TO COMPLEMENT THE FUNDING RECEIVED BY A SCHOOL FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR A SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM.

~~(C)~~ (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) DEVELOP AN APPLICATION FORM ~~FOR:~~

~~(A)~~ FOR A SCHOOL THAT DESIRES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; ~~AND~~

~~(H)~~ A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT DESIRES TO RECEIVE A STATE INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM;

(2) ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM REPRESENT GEOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC BALANCE STATEWIDE;

(3) ENSURE THAT A SCHOOL THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM IS A SCHOOL AT WHICH AT LEAST 40% OF THE REGISTERED STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE FEDERAL FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEAL PROGRAM;

(4) SELECT SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, ENSURING THAT AN EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM IS CONDUCTED BY ~~A PUBLIC AN~~ INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR OTHER UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT THAT IS INDEPENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT; ~~AND~~

(5) ANNUALLY REVIEW AND SET THE MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM TO COMPLEMENT THE FEDERAL MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATE DETERMINED UNDER § 7-703 OF THIS SUBTITLE; ~~AND~~

(6) DISBURSE THE PROGRAM FUNDS TO THE COUNTY BOARD OR THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

~~(D)~~ (E) A COUNTY BOARD OR A SPONSORING AGENCY FOR AN ELIGIBLE NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL:

(1) APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR FUNDS FOR SCHOOLS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD OR FOR SCHOOLS THAT ARE UNDER THE SPONSORING AGENCY THAT:

(I) ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; ~~AND~~

(II) APPLY TO THE BOARD OR TO THE SPONSORING AGENCY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; AND