



Staying on Track: Questions & Answers

Answers to the questions asked in HNS' **September 2026 Staying on Track** webinar.

Please note, operators are responsible for remaining up-to-date on program guidance/regulations. The following answers reflect the information available at the time of the live webinar and may be subject to change.

SEPTEMBER 2026

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Does the 30-day carryover period apply to the Student School Food Program Association?

For example, if a student qualified for Free or Reduced-Price Meals in SY25/26 through a USDA application, a CNP Direct Certification match, or another categorical eligibility source, should the student's School Food Program Associations continue to be reported in SY26/27 with the same Eligibility Status and Eligibility Source during the initial 30-day carryover period?

A: The child's eligibility status must be carried over from the previous school year into the current school year for no less than 30 operating days, unless a new eligibility determination is made prior to the end of the 30-day carryover period. This includes incoming "new students" within known households.

- Please note, operators cannot wait 30 days to process the new documentation.

The student's current eligibility status for the school year should be reported in the Student Food Service Program Association Data into AzEDS.

Q: I have received an email from APLD@sys.azed.gov, that stated I have been dropped from a course. What does this mean?

A: The Arizona Department of Education Health and Nutrition Services is cleaning up some online systems by archiving outdated trainings. The message can be disregarded. Credit toward completed trainings is unimpacted.