



Direct Verification Overview

The Role of Texas ELMS in Direct Verification

CEs can use Texas ELMS to quickly verify their sample of approved household applications. While CEs are required to conduct verification if they have approved applications, CEs are not required to use the direct verification process. However, using the direct verification process can reduce the burden on CEs and households.

Direct Verification in Texas ELMS streamlines the process of verifying students in households receiving federal assistance through programs including SNAP, TANF, select Medicaid types, and CHIP. Texas ELMS does NOT confirm eligibility for students qualifying through categories such as foster, migrant, homeless (runaway or displaced) or enrollment in Head Start. Importantly, the Direct Verification process in ELMS cannot be used to determine eligibility, only to confirm eligibility. Direct Certification should be used to determine eligibility.

Direct Verification of Household Applications

Any CEs that collect household applications to determine meal benefits must verify a sample of those applications annually. Applications based on income or an unverified EDG number must be verified. CEs can reduce the number of household verification letters by conducting Direct Verification on a sample pool of applications prior to reaching out to households.

After the sample of household applications is established, students listed on those applications can be searched for in the Direct Verification section of Texas ELMS. If benefits on an application can be confirmed through Direct Verification, a household verification letter and additional documentation are not needed.