Verification Reporting in MARS

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Overview

Annually, each SFA, including ALL RCCIs, with schools operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP) must report verification information. All districts, please Complete entering Verification Report data in MARS **Wednesday**, **January 17**, **2024**.

All SFAs, including SFAs with all schools exempt from verification requirements, must complete applicable sections of the form. This includes RCCIs, SFAs with Provision Schools in non-base years and SFAs with schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Should you have questions, please contact the School Support Help Desk or your Program Specialist at 601-576-5000.

NOTE: SFAs that are **Special Milk Only** are exempt from filing an SFA Verification Collection Report.

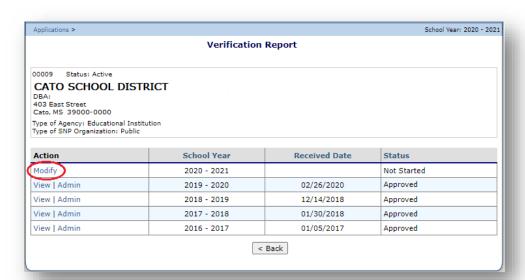
Complete the SFA Verification Collection Report online in MARS. Paper Versions Will Not Be Accepted.

The electronic verification form will be available in MARS until **January 17**, **2024**. Additional instructions can be found in the USDA's Eligibility Manual.

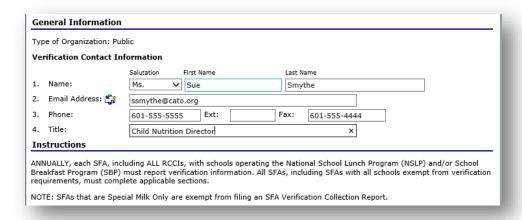
Navigate to the Verification Report in MARS



Click Applications, then click Verification Report. This opens the Verification Report Screen



Click Modify in the table for the current school year, this opens the SFA Verification Collection Report.



Review the information in the *Contact Information* and if updates are needed, complete them in the *Organization Application Packet*.

Completing SFA Verification Collection Report

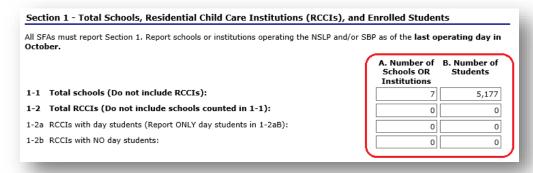
Each district/organization must complete sections that apply to their structure. Click the link below that describes your district/organization for instructions specific to your structure

- Pricing at all sites
- Pricing and Provision 2 Base Year
- Pricing and CEP
- CEP at all sites
- Provision 2 base year at all sites
- Provision 2 non-base year at all sites
- Provision 2 non-base year and CEP

Pricing at All Sites

For those organizations where all sites are benefit issuance (Pricing Program), follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

a. In Section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's

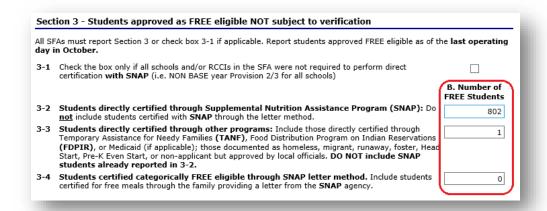


NOTE: Number of Schools or Institutions is the number of sites in MARS for your SFA.

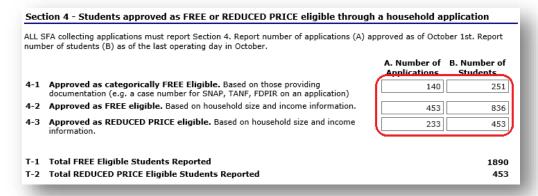
b. SKIP SECTION 2

c. In section 3:

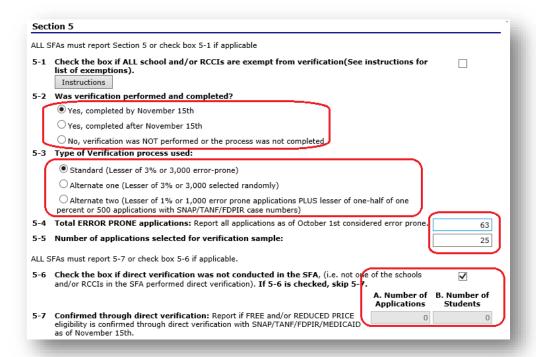
- i) complete 3-2B, these are students that were directly certified, this information is provided to the district through MSIS
- ii) Complete 3-3B if students were directly certified through Temporary Assistance for needy families (TANF)
- iii) Complete 3-4, if the district was provided a letter from the SNAP agency (letter method)



d. In section 4 complete 4-1 A & B, 4-2 A & B and 4-3 A & B. T-1 and T-2 populate automatically.



e. Complete section 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5*, and 5-6 (check 5-6 and skip 5-7)



*NOTE: If "alternate one" is selected in 5-3, 5-4 is disabled.

f. Complete section 5-8 (results of verification by original benefit type)

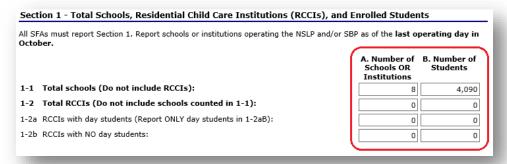
5-8	Results of Verification by Original Benefit Type For each original benefit type (A, B, & C), report the number of applications and students as of November 15th for each result category (1, 2, 3, & 4). Do NOT include students and applications already reported in 5-7A or 5-7B (direct verification applications and students).							
		A. FREE-Categorically Eligible Certified as FREE based on SNAP/TANF/FDPIR documentation (e.g. case number) on application		B. FREE-1 Certified as FR income/hous applica	EE based on ehold size	C. REDUCED PRICE-Income Certified as REDUCED PRICE based on income/household size application		
	Result Category	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	
	1. Responded, NO CHANGE:	0	0	1	1	2	3	
	2. Responded,	REDUCED	PRICE	REDUCED	PRICE	FREI	E	
	Changed to REDUCED PRICE / FREE:	0	0	2	2	1	1	
	3. Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	1	1	3	3	
	4. NOT Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	8	15	7	8	
VC-1	Total questionable app number of applications a requirement.						0	

g. Save to submit

Pricing and Provision 2 Base Year (Sites are a mixture of pricing and provision 2)

If your organization is benefit issuance (pricing program) *and* participating in Provision 2, follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

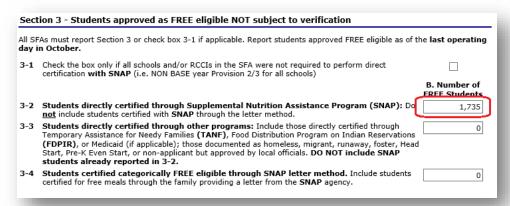
a. In section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's



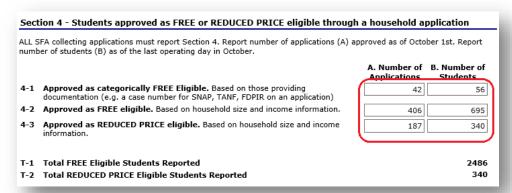
b. In section 2, complete 2-1 A & B in Section 2

Only	ion 2 - SFAs with schools operating alternate provisions SFAs with alternative provisions must report Section 2. Report schools or institutions ist operating day in October.	s o	perating the NSLI	P and/or SBP as o
			A. Number of Schools AND Institutions	B. Number of Students
2-1	Operating Provision 2/3 in a BASE year for NSLP and SBP:	٢	8	4,090
2-2	Operating Provision 2/3 in a NON BASE year for NSLP and SBP:	٦	0	0
2-2a	Provision 2/3 students reported as FREE in a NON BASE year:			0
2-2b	Provision 2/3 students reported as REDUCED PRICE in a NON BASE year:			0
2-3	Operating the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP):		0	0
2-4	Operating other alternatives for NSLP and SBP:		0	0
2-5	Operating an alternate provision(s) for only SBP or only NSLP:		0	0

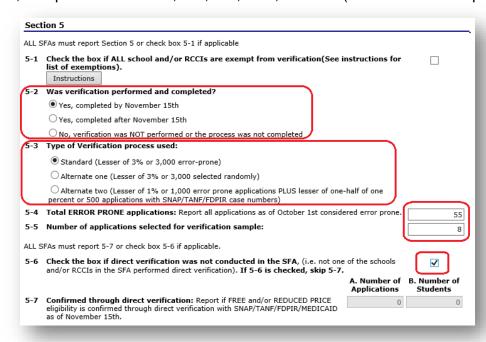
c. In section 3, complete section 3 -2B



d. In section 4, complete section 4-1 A & B, 4-2 A & B, 4-3 A & B. T-1 and T-2 populate automatically.



e. In section 5, complete section 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5*, and 5-6 (check 5-6 and skip 5-7)



*NOTE: 5-5 Automatically populates based on that is selected in 5-3, however if your organization verified a different number you must update 5-5 with the number of applications selected for verification.

f. Also, in section 5, complete 5-8 A, B & C.

5-8	Results of Verification by Original Benefit Type For each original benefit type (A, B, & C), report the number of applications and students as of November 15th for each result category (1, 2, 3, & 4). Do NOT include students and applications already reported in 5-7A or 5-7B (direct verification applications and students).							
		A. FREE-Categorically Eligible Certified as FREE based on SNAP/TANF/FDPIR documentation (e.g. case number) on application		Eligible Certified as FREE based on SNAP/TANF/FDPIR documentation (e.g. case		C. REDUCED PRICE-Income Certified as REDUCED PRICE based on income/household size application		
	Result Category	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	
	1. Responded, NO CHANGE:	1	1	2	3	0	0	
	2. Responded, Changed to REDUCED PRICE / FREE:	REDUCED 0	PRICE	REDUCED 1	PRICE 1	FRE	0	
	3. Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	4	10	0	0	
	4. NOT Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	0	0	0	0	

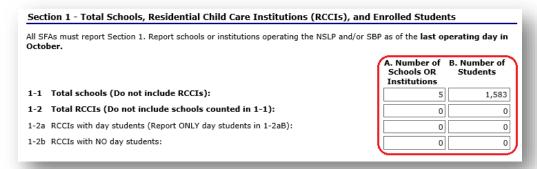
NOTE: the numbers entered for "applications" must equal the number in 5-5.

g. Save to submit

Pricing and CEP (Sites are a mixture of pricing and CEP)

If your organization is benefit issuance (pricing program) and participating in CEP, follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

a. In Section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's

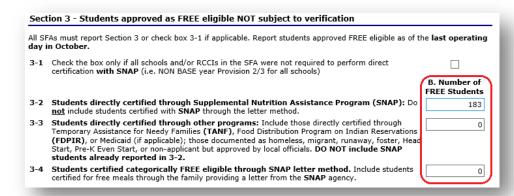


b. In section 2, complete section 2-3 A & B (with information for CEP schools)

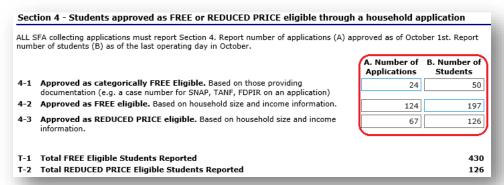
	SFAs with alternative provisions must report Section 2. Report schools or instituti st operating day in October.	ons operating the NSL	P and/or SBP as
		A. Number of Schools AND Institutions	B. Number of Students
2-1	Operating Provision 2/3 in a BASE year for NSLP and SBP:	0	0
2-2	Operating Provision 2/3 in a NON BASE year for NSLP and SBP:	0	0
2-2a	Provision 2/3 students reported as FREE in a NON BASE year:		0
2-2b	Provision 2/3 students reported as REDUCED PRICE in a NON BASE year:		0
2-3	Operating the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP):	3	1,289
2-4	Operating other alternatives for NSLP and SBP:	0	0
2-5	Operating an alternate provision(s) for only SBP or only NSLP:	0	0

c. In section 3

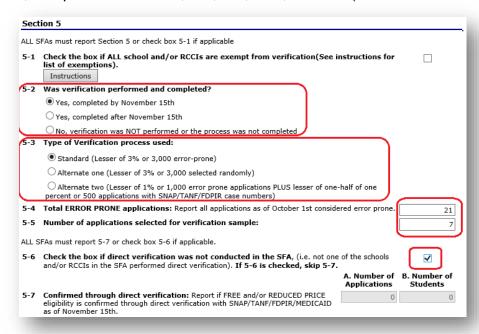
- complete 3-2B, these are students that were directly certified, this information is provided to the district through MSIS
- Complete 3-3B if students were directly certified through Temporary Assistance for needy families (TANF)
- Complete 3-4, if the district was provided a letter from the SNAP agency (letter method)



d. In section 4 complete 4-1 A & B, 4-2 A & B and 4-3 A & B. T-1 and T-2 populate automatically.

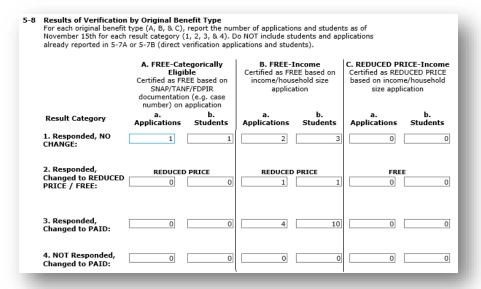


e. In section 5, complete section 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5*, and 5-6 (check 5-6 and skip 5-7)



*NOTE: If "alternate one" is selected in 5-3, 5-4 is disabled.

f. Also in section 5, complete 5-8 A, B & C.



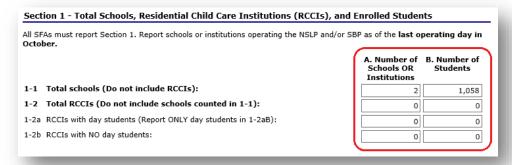
NOTE: the numbers entered for "applications" must equal the number in 5-5.

g. Save to submit

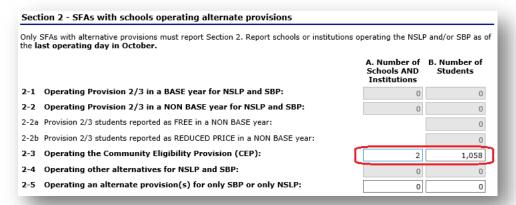
CEP at All Sites

If all schools in your organization are operating CEP, follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

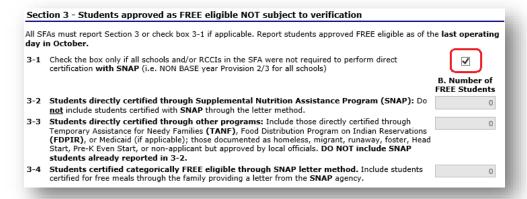
a. In section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A & B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's



b. In section 2, complete 2-3 A & B

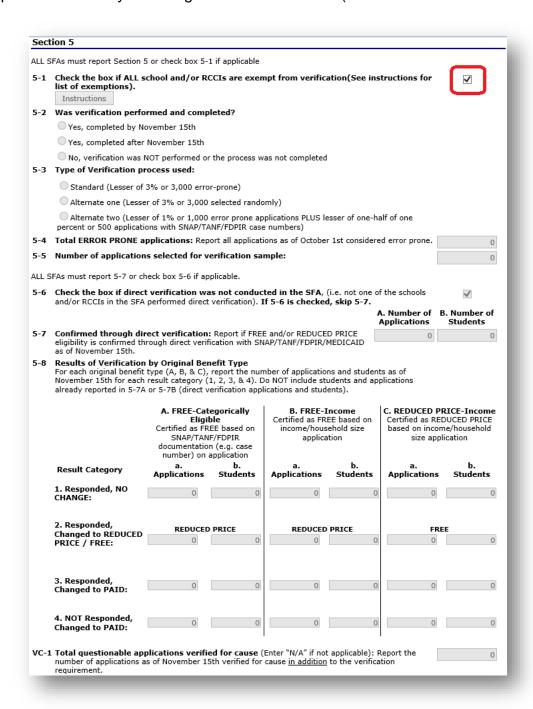


c. In section 3, complete by selecting the checkbox in 3-1



d. SKIP section 4

e. Complete section 5 by selecting the checkbox in 5-1 (this disables all of section 5 and VC-1)

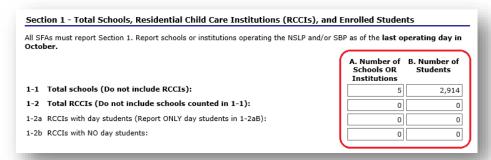


f. Save to submit.

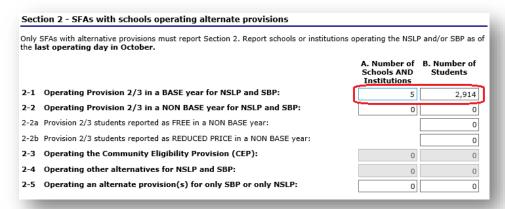
Provision 2 base year at all sites

If all schools in your organization are provision 2 only and operating in the base year (taking meal applications), follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

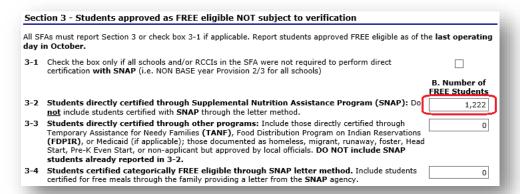
a. In Section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's



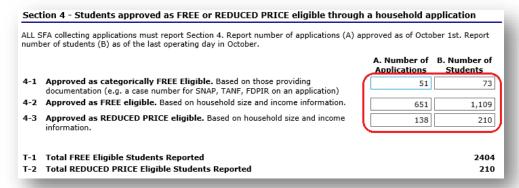
b. In section 2, complete 2-1 A & B



c. In section 3, complete 3-2B



d. In section 4, complete 4-1 A & B, 4-2 A & B, and 4-3 A & B. T-1 and T-2 populate automatically



e. In section 5, complete section 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5*, 5-6 (check 5-6 and skip 5-7)

Section 5
ALL SFAs must report Section 5 or check box 5-1 if applicable
5-1 Check the box if ALL school and/or RCCIs are exempt from verification(See instructions for list of exemptions). Instructions
5-2 Was verification performed and completed?
Yes, completed by November 15th Yes, completed after November 15th No, verification was NOT performed or the process was not completed Type of Verification process used:
Standard (Lesser of 3% or 3,000 error-prone)
O Alternate one (Lesser of 3% or 3,000 selected randomly)
Alternate two (Lesser of 1% or 1,000 error prone applications PLUS lesser of one-half of one percent or 500 applications with SNAP/TANF/FDPIR case numbers)
5-4 Total ERROR PRONE applications: Report all applications as of October 1st considered error prone 39
5-5 Number of applications selected for verification sample: 26
ALL SFAs must report 5-7 or check box 5-6 if applicable.
5-6 Check the box if direct verification was not conducted in the SFA, (i.e. not one of the schools and/or RCCIs in the SFA performed direct verification). If 5-6 is checked, skip 5-7.
A. Number of B. Number of Applications Students
5-7 Confirmed through direct verification: Report if FREE and/or REDUCED PRICE eligibility is confirmed through direct verification with SNAP/TANF/FDPIR/MEDICAID as of November 15th.

*NOTE: If "alternate one" is selected in 5-3, 5-4 is disabled.

h. Also, in section 5, complete 5-8 A, B & C.

5-8	Results of Verification by Original Benefit Type For each original benefit type (A, B, & C), report the number of applications and students as of November 15th for each result category (1, 2, 3, & 4). Do NOT include students and applications already reported in 5-7A or 5-7B (direct verification applications and students).							
		A. FREE-Categorically Eligible Certified as FREE based on SNAP/TANF/FDPIR documentation (e.g. case number) on application		Eligible Certified as FREE based on income/household size P/TANF/FDPIR application (e.g. case		C. REDUCED PRICE-Income Certified as REDUCED PRICE based on income/household size application		
	Result Category	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	
	1. Responded, NO CHANGE:	0	0	6	10	1	3	
	2. Responded,	REDUCED	PRICE	REDUCED	PRICE	FRE	E	
	Changed to REDUCED PRICE / FREE:	0	0	6	9	0	0	
	3. Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	2	4	3	5	
	4. NOT Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	6	11	2	4	
VC-1	Total questionable appropriate of applications a requirement.						0	

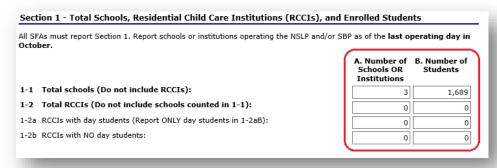
NOTE: the numbers entered for "applications" must equal the number in 5-5.

i. Save to submit

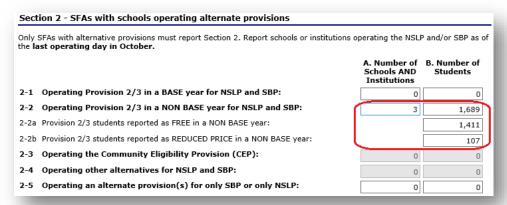
Provision 2 Non-Base Year at All Sites

If all schools in your organization Provision 2 and operating in a non-base year is (when no certification procedures are conducted) follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

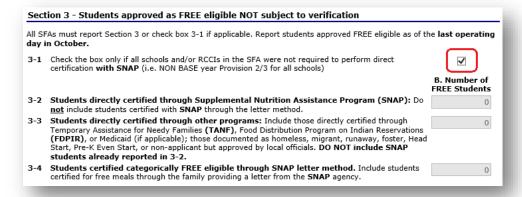
a. In section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's



b. In section 2, complete 2-2 A & B, 2-2a and 2-2b

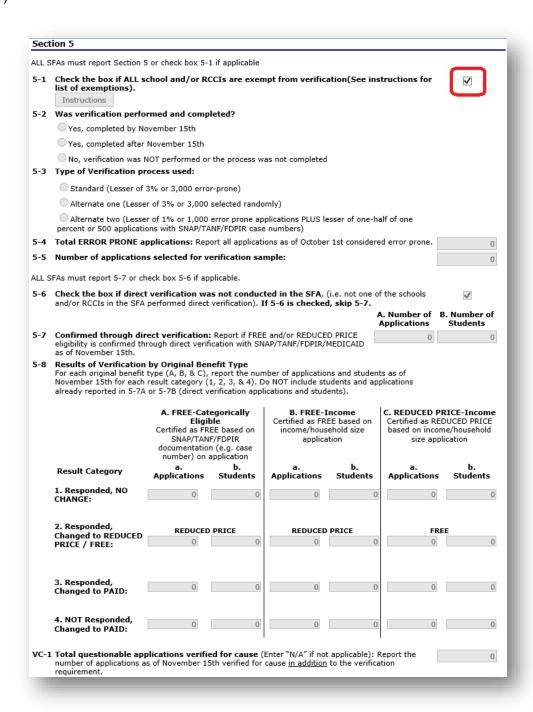


c. In section 3, complete by selecting the checkbox for 3-1 (3-2 through 3-4 disables)



d. SKIP section 4

e. In section 5, complete by selecting the checkbox in 5-1 (this disables the rest of section 5 and VC-1)

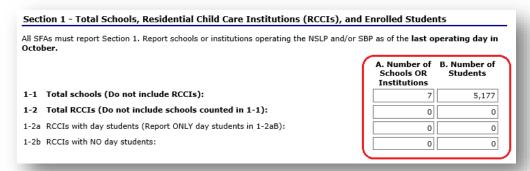


f. Save to submit.

Provision 2 non-base year and CEP (Sites are a mixture of provision 2 and CEP)

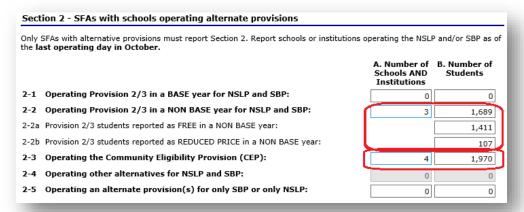
If your organization has Provision 2 schools operating in a non-base year (when no certification procedures are conducted) *and* CEP schools, follow these steps to complete the Verification Collection Report in MARS:

a. In Section 1, complete 1-1 A & B if non-RCCI's. Complete 1-2 A &B, 1-2a, 1-2b if RCCI's

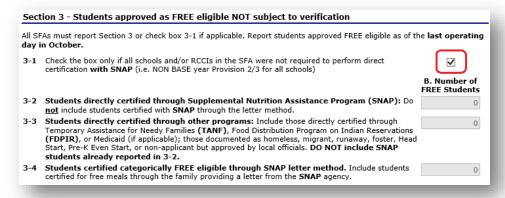


NOTE: Number of Schools or Institutions is the number of sites in MARS for your SFA.

b. In section 2, complete 2-2 A & B and 2-2a, 2-2b.

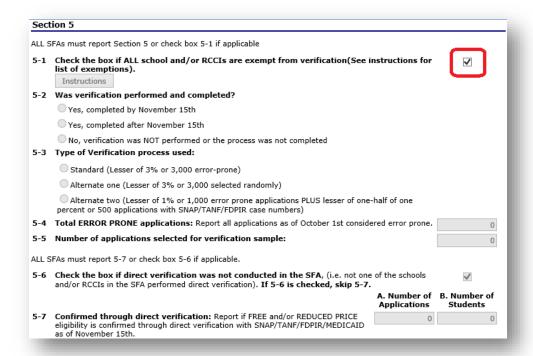


c. In section 3, complete by selecting the checkbox in 3-1



d. SKIP section 4

e. Complete section 5 by selecting the checkbox in 5-1 (this disables all of section 5 and VC-1)



5-8	For each original benefit November 15th for each	ults of Verification by Original Benefit Type each original benefit type (A, B, & C), report the number of applications and students as of ember 15th for each result category (1, 2, 3, & 4). Do NOT include students and applications sty reported in 5-7A or 5-7B (direct verification applications and students).							
		A. FREE-Categorically Eligible Certified as FREE based on SNAP/TANF/FDPIR documentation (e.g. case number) on application		B. FREE-Income Certified as FREE based on income/household size application		C. REDUCED PRICE-Income Certified as REDUCED PRICE based on income/household size application			
	Result Category	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students	a. Applications	b. Students		
	1. Responded, NO CHANGE:	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	2. Responded, Changed to REDUCED PRICE / FREE:	REDUCED 0	PRICE 0	REDUCED 0	PRICE 0	FRE 0	0		
	3. Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	4. NOT Responded, Changed to PAID:	0	0	0	0	0	0		
VC-1	VC-1 Total questionable applications verified for cause (Enter "N/A" if not applicable): Report the number of applications as of November 15th verified for cause in addition to the verification requirement.								

f. Save to submit.