



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Peter McWalters
Commissioner

Date: August 8, 2007
To: District IT Staff and Business Officials
From: Carolyn Dias, Director, Office of Finance
Edward Giroux, Director, Office of Network and Information Systems
Subject: Invitation to a Rollout Meeting on Electronic Direct Certification (eDC)

The RI Department of Human Services (DHS) and the RI Department of Education (RIDE) have been working together to develop a system that would automate the Direct Certification process. This Electronic Direct Certification (eDC) process is to benefit households and schools so eligible children will automatically receive free meals at school without the paperwork burden and increase the number of eligible students that go unreported, especially in the middle and high schools.

You are invited to attend a Rollout Meeting on Thursday, August 23, 2007 (see below). This meeting will explain the eDC process and its implementation for School Year 2007-2008. The process starts with RIDE providing a student data file to DHS to conduct a match with students receiving Food Stamps and/or FIP benefits. The matched student data file is sent to RIDE to prepare the data to share with the district/schools. Once RIDE makes the matched student data available, coordination with the district's data manager or IT person is needed for data transfer into the district's enrollment/attendance system.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting for a user's guide, a demonstration on how to access the data, and an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the process for a smooth implementation of eDC. The eDC is a process that will not only benefit Direct Certification students by streamlining the eligibility process but will also reduce the paperwork burden for schools while increasing the number of reported eligible students.

RIDE will conduct a Rollout meeting on:

Date: Thursday, August 23, 2007
Time: 12:00pm. – 3:00 pm.
Location: Radisson Airport Hotel
2081 Post Road
Warwick, Rhode Island

Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Leslie.Capece@ride.ri.gov no later than August 17, 2007 because space is limited.

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