

## **Response to Questions on the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan**

**Request By:** Supervisor Gross

**Question:** Determine if there is any correlation between the ESOL numbers and the numbers of students who receive free and reduced-price lunches.

**Response:** The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools.

The proportion of English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) students in FCPS who qualify for the federally funded free or reduced lunch program is substantially higher than that of the overall FCPS student population, and the proportion has grown over the past five years. In the 1999-2000 school year, 19 percent of all FCPS students in FCPS qualified for the free or reduced-price lunch program and currently 21 percent of all students qualify. In contrast, 36 percent of ESOL students qualified for the free or reduced-price lunch program in the 1999-2000 school year and in the current school year, 47 percent qualify for the program.