

NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well
Being

Date: June 10, 2024

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: SUN Bucks (S-EBT) – Benefits Issuances

Priority: Information for Awareness

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) **will begin issuing SUN Bucks benefits June 24th.**

Households will receive a one-time payment of \$120 per eligible child that can be used to purchase nutritious foods during the summer months when school is not in session. To allow adequate supply at grocery stores, please encourage clients to be patient if they do not see their benefits right away. For this first issuance, qualifying households can expect to receive their benefits between June 24th and July 8th. Following the first issuance, benefits will be issued every two weeks until the end of September as new children are found eligible.

Households that currently receive Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) can expect to receive benefits on their existing FNS EBT card within 1-4 weeks of issuance. All other households, including children in foster care, will receive a new SUN Bucks card with benefits within 1-4 weeks of issuance.

Counties will play an important role to helping eligible students get their benefits this summer, including:

- Distribute SUN Bucks cards mailed to the DSS office for homeless and foster care students who did not have an address on file.
- Work the FNS undeliverable card report per counties' established processes. Note, NCDHHS will work the undeliverable card report for Sun Bucks only cases.
- Inform families of this new benefit by sharing the following information:
 - [Flyers](#)
 - [Webinars](#)
 - [Other Resources](#)
 - [SUN Bucks Resources](#)
 - [SUN Bucks resources toolkit](#),
 - [SUN Bucks Search Tool](#)
 - [Does my child qualify for SUN Bucks](#)

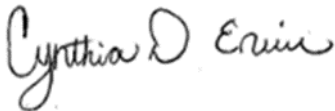
GENERAL INFORMATION

SUN Bucks is the newest addition to North Carolina's summer nutrition programs and aims to provide an easy and convenient way for students to access nutritious food over the summer. It serves as a complementary program to NCDPI's summer nutrition offerings. Visit NCDPI's [Summer Meals webpage](#) for more information on these programs and to find summer meal sites in your area.

Many students will automatically qualify for SUN Bucks benefits, while others will need to apply. Families who are eligible to apply will receive an email or text with an invitation to apply and instructions on how to submit an application. Online applications are encouraged and are typically processed faster. If your client would like a paper copy, please print the attached application, which has instructions on how to submit the paper application. **Applications for Summer 2024 must be submitted by August 31, 2024.**

Families can view the SUN Bucks eligibility flyer in [English](#) or in [Spanish](#) to see if they are automatically eligible or if they should apply. Additional information about the program, including [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#), can be found on NCDHHS' [SUN Bucks website](#).

Sincerely,



Cynthia Ervin
Assistant Director
Division of Child and Family Well-Being

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