



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services

Date: May 25, 2021

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Summer Pandemic EBT

Priority: Information and Action

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 provides the Secretary of Agriculture authority to approve State agency plans to provide Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) benefits during the summer months for students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and children under six (6) who are included in an active Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) case. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in collaboration with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has submitted a plan and received approval from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to implement a Summer P-EBT program.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

A. Eligible Children:

The State will provide Summer P-EBT benefits for the months of June, July, and August 2021. Since the last month of school varies throughout the state by school districts. North Carolina will consider May the last month of school for all systems, regardless of the actual end date. Children that meet the following conditions will be eligible for Summer P-EBT:

1. School aged children:
 - a. The child received school P-EBT benefits during the month of May; **or**
 - b. The child was eligible to receive school P-EBT benefits during the month of May but did not receive P-EBT benefits during the month of May; **or**

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
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www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

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- c. The child is determined eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals during the months of June, July, or August 2021.

2. Children under 6:

- a. The child received P-EBT for children under six (6) during the month of May; **or**
- b. The child was eligible to receive P-EBT for children under six (6) during the month of May but did not because all schools in their county were attending classes in person; **or**
- c. The child is born into an active FNS case, added to an active FNS case, or approved for benefits for one or more months of June, July, and August 2021.

B. Selection of Eligible Children and Issuance of Benefits:

There is no application for NC P-EBT benefits for students or children under six (6). North Carolina will do two separate single issuances for summer P-EBT.

- For the first issuance, all children will be selected using the list of children that received P-EBT for school children and P-EBT for children under six (6) during the month of May 2021. The first issuance will be done in July 2021 for the children outlined in A. 1. a & b and A. 2. a & b.
- For the second issuance, a list of newly eligible children from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and list of children under six (6) added to active or new FNS cases during the summer period will be used to issue the payment at the end of the summer period. The second issuance will be done in September 2021 for the children outlined in A. 1. c. and A. 2 c.
- Both issuances will occur on or around the 20th of each month and randomly staggered over a 10 day issuance period.

C. Benefit Levels:

There is one benefit level for summer P-EBT in the amount of \$375. This is a **one-time** payment that covers the entire summer period of June, July, and August 2021.

D. Notices:

Notification to existing households will be provided through press releases, social media posts, and the state website. Households that contain a child that becomes eligible during the summer period of June, July, and August will receive a printed notice. The Summer P-EBT notice (attached) will inform new recipients that they will be receiving Summer P-EBT and provide instructions on pinning the EBT card.

E. Issuance Reports:

More information on P-EBT benefits reports will be provided when available.

F. Overpayments.

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) does not have authority to pursue claims against households or children that were incorrectly issued benefits to which they were not entitled. Do not include the P-EBT for children under six (6) in any overpayment calculations.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

This policy is effective upon receipt for all active FNS households. Submit any questions regarding this information to the DHHS Operational Support Team (OST) at DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Carla West, Senior Director for Economic Security
Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services

CLW/rc

Attached (1):
Summer P-EBT Notice

EFS-FNSEP-55-2021