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Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to notify you that the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260) provides for the extension of additional nutritional supplements, called Pandemic EBT benefits, for your student(s). These benefits come through the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) from the USDA. The program provides \$6.82 per student per day depending on your school or school district's remote learning model during the current school year (September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021).

If you are already receiving SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, or if you have received P-EBT benefits in the past, you do not need to do anything. The extra benefits will be added automatically to your EBT Account. If you do not already have an EBT account, you will receive a preloaded P-EBT card in the mail.

DHHS will receive a list of eligible students from the Department of Education. If you did not complete an application for free or reduced price school meals with your school, you will not be on the list and that means you will not be eligible for P-EBT. If you believe you would qualify through your school for free or reduced price meals, apply immediately. Once found eligible, you can then apply for P-EBT. You can do this by going to <https://nheasy.nh.gov> and clicking on the apple P-EBT icon. You must have your *Notice of Eligibility Determination for Meal Benefits* from your school ready to upload with your application. If your P-EBT application is approved, you will receive an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card to purchase food.

You can use the EBT card to buy fresh, frozen or canned food. Some of the things you can buy are milk and dairy products, fruits and vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, cereal, rice and pasta. Go to <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dfa/foodstamps/index.htm> to find what you can and cannot buy with your P-EBT benefits.

Sincerely,

Department of Education

Encl: P-EBT Informational Flyer

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)



Are your students enrolled in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)?

If your student is enrolled in the NSLP, you are eligible for P-EBT. This program provides families additional nutritional benefits to offset the cost of meals students ate at home during the COVID-19 pandemic that they would normally have eaten at school.

If you currently receive SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, or you received P-EBT benefits in the past, and students in your household are enrolled in NSLP at their school, you are eligible for these benefits already. You do not need to apply and P-EBT benefits. If you already have an EBT account, P-EBT benefits will automatically go onto your EBT card. If you do not already have an EBT account, you will receive a pre-loaded P-EBT card in the mail.

If you do **not** currently receive SNAP TANF, Medicaid, or you did not received P-EBT benefits in the past, and students in your household are enrolled in NSLP at their school, you will need to complete a brief application on the NH EASY Gateway to Services (<https://nheasy.nh.gov/>).

You can use your card at any major food retailer or grocery store that displays a "We accept EBT" poster in the window. Participation in the program is voluntary. If at any point you choose to no longer participate in the program and you have a P-EBT card, please dispose of your card by cutting through the magnetic strip on the card and discard it in a secure manner.

What happens next?



Households who already have an EBT account will have P-EBT benefits loaded onto their existing EBT card. Households that do not have an EBT account will get a P-EBT card in the mail. **The card will be in the name of the parent/guardian of the student.** Please keep the card for any ongoing benefits you may receive.

How much are P-EBT benefits?



The amount of \$6.82 per student per day will be used to cover remote learning days reported by your school or SAU. Benefits are available for the 2020-2021 school year.

If I do not automatically get P-EBT, how do I apply?

You must complete a brief application online at NH Easy Gateway to Services <https://nheasy.nh.gov>. Your student's information will be used to verify enrollment in the NSLP automatically, using a list of enrolled students provide by the Department of Education. If your student cannot be located on this list, you will need to upload your "Notification of Eligibility Determination for Meal Benefits" letter that you received from your school when you enrolled.



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