

Coronavirus Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act of 2020 (H.R. 8337)

Last Updated September 30, 2020

[The Coronavirus Appropriations Act](#) was passed by the House as a Continuing Resolution on September 22 and passed by the Senate and signed into law on September 30. This bill would fund the government through December 11, and extends funding for critical human services programs, including \$8 billion in nutrition assistance. Below is a summary of the proposed policies and appropriations within the bill that would directly aide state and local human services agencies continue to support their communities.

NUTRITION SUPPORTS

1. **Pandemic EBT** – This Continuing Resolution extends the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program through FY 2021. The extension includes several changes from the program authorized in FY 2020.
 - *School closures* – Expands eligibility to students in schools with reduced number of days or hours that students attend the school for at least five consecutive days.
 - *Simplifying Assumptions* – Provides flexibility for states to use simplifying assumptions and the best feasibly available data to provide benefits and establish benefit levels and eligibility periods for eligible children.
 - *Expansion to Children in Child Care* – Provides states an option to issue P-EBT benefits to children receiving SNAP and enrolled in a covered child care center for each day the child does not attend the facility because it is closed or operating with reduced attendance.
 - *Coverage of Administrative Expenses* – Provides full federal reimbursement of states' P-EBT administrative expenditures.
2. **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** – Provides state SNAP agencies the option to extend certification periods up to six months though June 2021, follow periodic reporting requirements in lieu of recertification rules through December 2021, and/or provide interview adjustments for some or all households through June 2021 without prior approval from the Secretary of Agriculture. The bill further provides states the option to suspend Quality Control review requirements from June 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.
3. **National School Lunch Program (NSLP)** – Extension of program requirement waivers authorized in Families First Coronavirus Response Act through FY 2021. These include allowing schools to provide meals to students or families to take home, providing more than one meal at a

time and a chosen time period, and more to provide for public health safety for children and families.

4. **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** – Extension of physical presence and administrative waivers authorized in Families First Coronavirus Response Act through FY 2021. These waivers allow the program to continue to serve pregnant women, children, and mothers through remote services.