

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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Alabama DHR Announces Rollout of Summer P-EBT Benefits

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - Summer Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits are rolling out this week to families with children who receive free or reduced-price school meals through the National School Lunch Program.

Qualifying households will receive \$391 for each participating student to purchase SNAPeligible food at stores that accept Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards. The benefits cover the summer months retroactively. Alabama is among the first states in the country to start issuing Summer P-EBT benefits for 2022.

"Food security is a key ingredient in the recipe for a child's success in the classroom and at home," said Commissioner Nancy Buckner of the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR). "Alabama continues to do a tremendous job of reducing the risk of hunger and giving children the best chance to achieve their full potential."

Families who received P-EBT benefits during the 2021-22 school year can access the summer benefits on their existing EBT cards in the coming days. EBT cards will be delivered by mail within 20 days to those who are new to the National School Lunch Program. The benefits expire nine months from their issue date.

Recipients should keep their cards in case more benefits are added in the future.

Summer P-EBT benefits are limited to students who receive free or reduced-price meals from the National School Lunch Program by application or through either the Community Eligibility Provision or a Provision 2 school. Families with questions about eligibility should contact the schools their children attend.

To become eligible for Summer P-EBT, families may apply for the National School Lunch Program by contacting their local schools no later than Aug. 31.

DHR oversees the distribution of P-EBT benefits with assistance from the Alabama State Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service administers the program at the federal level. Support specialists are available to answer questions about P-EBT by phone at 1-800-410-5827 and online at dhr.alabama.gov/foodassistance/ from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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