



COLORADO
Department of Education

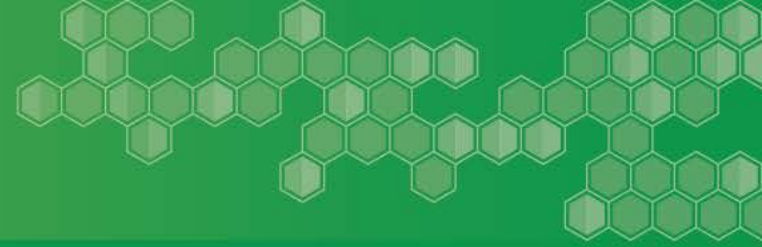
Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

Supplemental food access during school closures due to COVID-19

CDE, School Nutrition Unit
Colorado Department of Human Services
Thursday, June 11
2:00 – 3:00pm

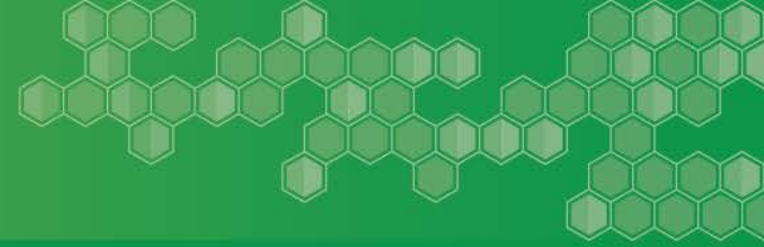


Objectives



- What is P-EBT?
 - Who is eligible?
- How will benefits be issued?
- What is the role of schools/districts to assist with P-EBT issuance?
- Outreach
- Q&A

What is P-EBT

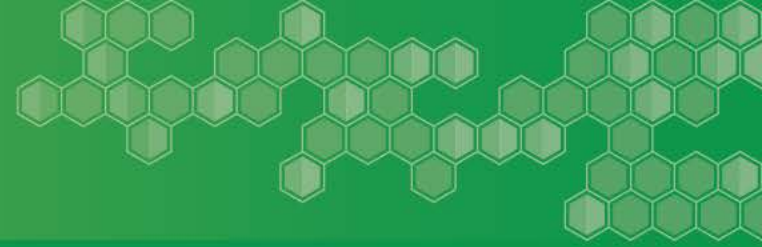


- The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) created the P-EBT program to assist families who lost access to free or reduced-price school meals due to schools closures in response to COVID-19.
- P-EBT will provide families an additional benefit equivalent to a free breakfast and lunch (\$5.70/day) or up to \$279/eligible child
 - Approximately 363,000 CO children are eligible to receive this benefit
- P-EBT is a supplemental monetary allotment and can be used in conjunction with emergency feeding grab-n-go meals
 - Families are encouraged to use both

Who is eligible?

- Families with students who receive free or reduced-price lunches and attend a site that participates in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
 - Includes families that may now qualify due to income loss from COVID-19 and were not previously receiving free or reduced-price meals
- ALL students attending a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 site

How will P-EBT benefits be issued?



- Will vary based on participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Families currently participating in SNAP:
 - No action required; benefits will be automatically issued for eligible children in the household
 - Benefits to be issued in June
- Families not currently participating in SNAP:
 - Must complete a P-EBT application
 - CO Department of Human Services (CDHS) creating and overseeing application process
 - Application expected to open end of June/early July
 - Open for a period of 6 weeks

P-EBT Issuance for SNAP vs. Non-SNAP

Families currently receiving SNAP



No action required



P-EBT benefits will be automatically issued to existing P-EBT card for eligible children in the household

Families NOT currently receiving SNAP



Action required from schools/districts AND families



Schools/districts provide families with state issued student ID (SASID) or student ID numbers for private school students.

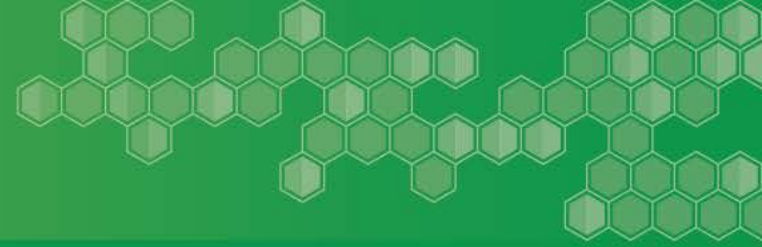


Families apply for P-EBT and provide required information including the SASID or student ID information.

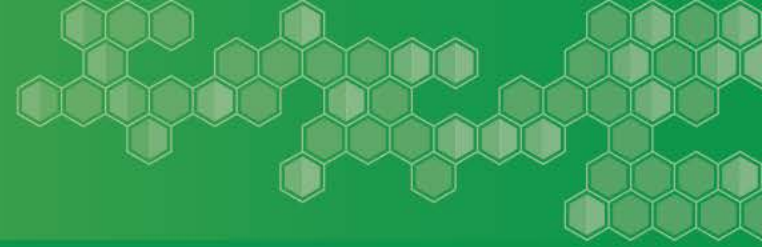


Upon approval, families will be issued a P-EBT card with awarded allotment based on children and any prorated amounts

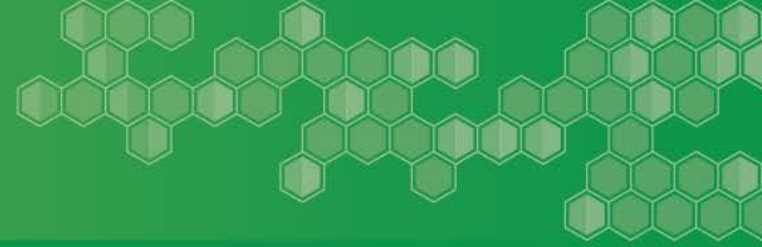
What is the role of schools/districts?



- Provide the required state issued student ID (SASID) to families; private schools provide local student ID
 - SASID is a ten digit ID issued to enrolled public school students
 - Required component for families to complete the P-EBT application
- Promote the P-EBT application once available
 - Post application link on webpage
 - Emails, robocalls or text messages
- Designate available staff during summer months
 - Send out communications
 - Field questions – Identify available staff
 - Refer families to the P-EBT application/enrollment page



- As soon as possible:
 - Identify where SASIDs (student IDs for private schools) are housed
 - Work with IT or October Count staff on accessibility of IDs and coordinating efforts
 - Start creating communication plan –
 - How will IDs be provided?
 - Who will be creating and sending communications?
 - Who will be fielding questions?
 - What information will we post to our website?

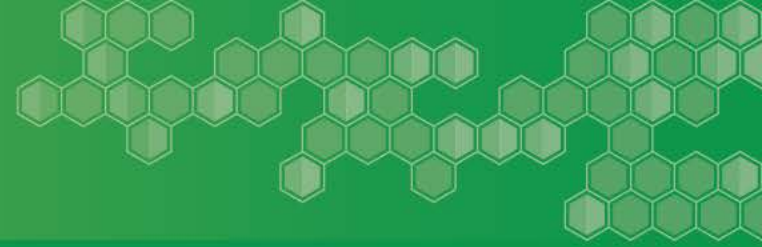


- Next Steps:
 - Communicate the IDs directly to families or explain how IDs can be accessed
 - Highly recommend proactively providing IDs to families
 - Provide link to landing page for P-EBT application access
 - Field questions and direct families accordingly



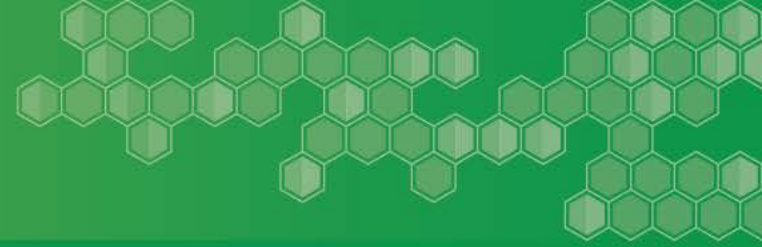
- **CDHS & Partners**

- Help with P-EBT outreach
- Assist families in the application process
- Support local level school/district staff
- Marketing campaign



- [School Nutrition Communications Toolkit](#)
 - Letter to households
 - Robocall script
 - Text message script
 - Flyers for Grab-n-go meal bags
- [CDHS P-EBT FAQ Webpage](#)
- Identify main contact for P-EBT
 - Use [this Smartsheet form](#) to identify main contacts at local level for P-EBT
 - Indicate availability
 - Identify additional needs/supports

Questions & Answers

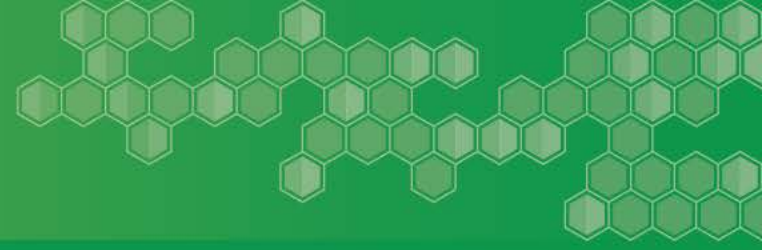


Q: I do not see any Spanish versions of the templates. Will these be coming soon?

A: Yes, templates are currently being translated and will be available soon.

Q: I have processed free and reduced-price meal applications during the school closures, do I need to report these to CDHS?

A: No, you do not need to report any application information to CDHS or CDE. Families can provide household size and income in the P-EBT application if they were not eligible for free or reduced-price school meals during the school year.

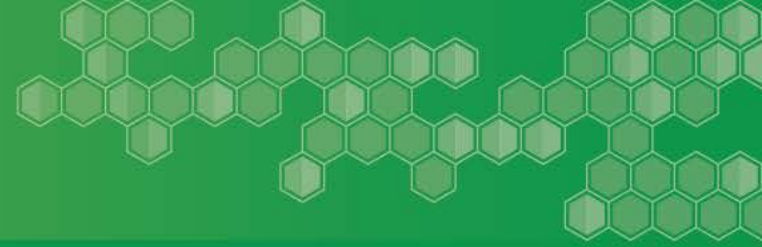


Q: If our school is a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 school and provides free lunches to all students, do all of our students automatically qualify for P-EBT?

A: If you are a CEP or Provision 2 school, that makes all students at that school eligible for P-EBT, though the issuing of the actual P-EBT benefit is not an automatic process and will still need a small amount of action required by families once more information is provided by the school.

Q: Will school districts be able to request P-EBT funds or is it only for individual households?

A: P-EBT is for individual households with children who would have been receiving free or reduced-price lunch if schools had been in session.

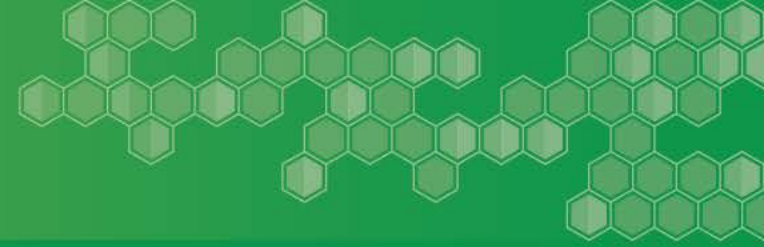


Q: Is P-EBT available for children in pre-kindergarten?

A: Currently, P-EBT is available for eligible households with children in grades K-12.

Q: Are foster children eligible for P-EBT?

A: Foster children are considered categorically eligible for free meals under the NSLP. Therefore, foster children are eligible for receiving P-EBT, but will not be automatically enrolled. A small amount of action will be required by families once more information is provided by the school.

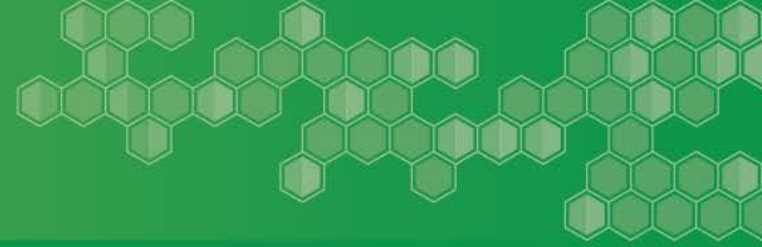


Q: Will FDPIR households need to apply through the P-EBT landing page?

A: Yes, any household not receiving SNAP will need to apply through the page.

Q: For families with recent income change, do they have to apply and be approved for free or reduced-price school meals prior to applying for P-EBT?

A: No. Families can provide household size and income in the P-EBT application if they were not eligible for free or reduced-price school meals during the school year.



Q: Do families that received P-EBT need to apply for free or reduced-price school meals for the upcoming school year?

A: Yes. All families, regardless of receiving P-EBT benefits, will need to re-apply for the new school year.

Q: Are all children 0-18 eligible for these funds? How do children not in school get a SASID number?

A. Only enrolled students attending school sites that participate in NSLP and qualify for free or reduced-price school meals are eligible to receive P-EBT.

Contact Information



- School Nutrition Contact:
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