

Pandemic EBT

The federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 provides benefits, referred to as Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), to families of school-aged children who would have otherwise received free or reduced-priced meals if it were not for school closures.



Universal does not have any further information about individual P-EBT benefits, for more information please visit <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Coronavirus-Pandemic-EBT.aspx> or email ra-pwpebtquestions@pa.gov.

To submit inquiries regarding P-EBT and to report a lost or damaged issued P-EBT Card, please submit the Online P-EBT Inquiry Form by visiting <https://www.emergencymealsurvey.com/PA>.

Timeline for Benefits:

- *For current SNAP and TANF EBT cardholders, P-EBT benefit issuance will be completed by June 8th.*
- *All others are receiving a card in the mail and cards should be received by the end of June.*

For additional information you may also want to check the [PA Department of Education's FAQs](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

What is P-EBT?

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) provides nutrition benefits to families who have lost access to free or reduced-price school meals because schools are closed. Eligible students and families will receive money on a new or existing EBT card to help fill the school meals gap. The average benefit will be approximately \$365.

Who is eligible for P-EBT benefits?

All families with school aged children (K-12) who qualify for free or reduced-price school meals under the National School Lunch Program. This includes ALL students currently enrolled in the School District of Philadelphia and select charter schools.

[Are Charter School Students Eligible?](#)

All schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) have students eligible for P-EBT.

[Is there an income requirement for P-EBT?](#)

If your child is enrolled in a K-12 School District of Philadelphia, brick and mortar school, they are eligible for this benefit regardless of income.

[How will I get the EBT card?](#)

If you already receive SNAP (Food Stamps) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF cash assistance), you will get the P-EBT amount deposited onto your EBT card for each student who is certified for free or reduced-price school meals.

If you do not already have an EBT card, you will receive a card in the mail with instructions on how to use it.

The P-EBT card works like a debit card to purchase food items anywhere EBT benefits are accepted. [Click here](#) for a list of what you can buy with P-EBT. [Click here](#) to find a list of EBT retailers.

It's important to have an up-to-date address on file with your school!

[My family needs food now. When will I get this?](#)

Families that have an active EBT card will receive the additional food benefit first. Most other families will start to receive funds in June. During the Covid19 pandemic, please visit the City of Philadelphia's Food Distribution Map at <https://www.phila.gov/food/#/>

Additional Resources:

Find a nearby [food pantry or food bank](#)

Contact your [county assistance office](#) for help finding food resources.