

PANDEMIC-EBT: Guide to Eligibility for Parents with School-Age Children



Does your child receive free or reduced-price school meals or does your child's school provide all meals free?

YES

NO



Do you receive SNAP benefits?

YES

NO

Call your local school to apply for free/reduced-price school meals and then apply for SNAP benefits.

You will automatically receive P-EBT on your LINK card.

You should apply for SNAP by visiting abe.illinois.gov or by calling 800-843-6154.

If you qualify for SNAP, you will automatically receive P-EBT. If you do not qualify for SNAP, you can still apply for P-EBT.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Illinois households with a child who is certified to receive free or reduced-price school meals or who attends a school that offers school meals to all students through the National School Lunch Program are eligible.

CAN IMMIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS APPLY?

P-EBT is available to households regardless of immigration status. P-EBT does not count toward the Public Charge test.

You do not need a social security number (SSN) to enroll in P-EBT but providing a SSN will process your application faster. If the parent does not have a social security number (SSN), apply using the SSN and date of birth of the oldest child with a SSN.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

P-EBT provides the value of school meals at the free rate for each eligible child in the household, for a total of \$5.70 per child per school day. If your child was enrolled in free or reduced price meals before schools closed in March, you likely qualify to receive \$342 for March, April, May, June, July and August.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- If your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals but not enrolled, you must first call your child's school to enroll in free or reduced price meals and then sign up for SNAP or P-EBT. You have until August 31 to sign up.
- Even though schools are closed, most schools still have administrative staff taking applications. Contact your local school to apply for free or reduced-price school meals for your child.
- To qualify for SNAP, your income must be under 165% of federal income limits (\$35,838 for a family of 3.)
- To qualify for P-EBT, your income must be under 185% (\$40,182 for a family of 3.)