

## Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

### FAQ

**Q: What is P-EBT?**

**A:** Pandemic- Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) program designed to provide cash benefits on an EBT card to be used to purchase food. This program is in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The purpose of the program is to provide benefits to children on free and reduced priced meals who lost access to food due to school closures and adjusted schedules during the 2020-2021 school year.

**Q: Who is eligible for P-EBT?**

**A:** Nebraska families are eligible for P-EBT benefits if:

- Children have been determined eligible by their school for free or reduced-price meals during the 2020-2021 school year; and,
- The child did not receive free or reduced-priced meals at the school because the school was closed or was operating with reduced attendance or hours for at least five consecutive days.

**Q: What is the P-EBT benefit amount?**

**A:** Nebraska is utilizing the average number of school days for all Nebraska schools to determine monthly benefits. The benefits will be \$116 per student for each eligible month for full-time (100%) remote learners and \$62 per student for each eligible month for hybrid learning environments.

**Q: Is the \$116/\$62 a total amount for the 2020-2021 school year?**

**A:** The \$116/\$62 is the monthly amount per child. Eligibility for P-EBT will be determined monthly. Issuances will be monthly and will include two months of benefits. Example: A child who is a full-time remote learner in October and November will receive \$232 for the first issuance in April.

**Q: How will the benefits be issued?**

**A:** P-EBT benefits will be issued monthly based on data received from Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and the school districts. The first issuance will occur on April 15. This will go to families with an active EBT card at the time of the issuance and P-EBT cards will be mailed to non-SNAP households. Benefits will be available once the P-EBT card is received.

**Q: Will non-SNAP households receive a new P-EBT card?**

**A:** Yes. Anyone who has received P-EBT in the past will receive a new P-EBT card if they are not currently on SNAP benefits. All remaining issuances will go on the P-EBT card received with the April 15, 2021 issuance. If they are determined eligible after the first issuance, a new P-EBT card will be mailed with the initial issuance and then ongoing benefits will continue on that card.

**Q: How will families receive P-EBT benefits?**

**A:** If they have an existing EBT card with active SNAP benefits, P-EBT benefits will be automatically added to that card. If they do not have active SNAP benefits, an all-white P-EBT card will be mailed to them, even if they have received P-EBT benefits previously. Important: They must have their address registered with the post office to receive the P-EBT card just like the regular EBT cards.

**Q: Is there an application process?**

**A:** No. P-EBT benefits will be issued from information received directly from NDE.

**Q: Are families that currently receives free breakfast and lunch from the school going to be eligible for this program?**

**A:** Many families are receiving free meals for the current school year through the extension of the Summer Food Program. Households eligible for P-EBT must have been determined eligible for free or reduced meals through the National School Lunch Program at their school and must meet the other eligibility factors.

**Q: Will this affect a family's ability to receive other benefits?**

**A:** No, it will not. These benefits replace school meals and are for families that receive free and reduced-priced school meals.

**Q: Does this count against families under the public charge rule?**

**A:** No, it does not. These benefits replace school meals and are for families that receive free and reduced-priced school meals.

**Q: Will there be an application just like the SNAP application?**

**A:** No, benefits will be issued to households determined eligible by the schools and reported to the agency by NDE.

**Q: How long do families have to spend P-EBT benefits?**

**A:** Families can use P-EBT benefits for one year. That year starts when the family makes their first purchase. If a purchase is never made, the year starts when the benefits are issued.

**Q: Are P-EBT benefits based solely on free and reduced-price meals through the schools or will there be additional income guidelines?**

**A:** There are no additional income guidelines.

**Q: How can I tell if my children are eligible for P-EBT benefits?**

**A:** You may check the Launch Nebraska site, <https://www.launchne.com/status/>, to see what has been reported as the classroom learning mode for your school. Only students reported eligible from their school district will receive P-EBT benefits. If the majority of the students where their child is enrolled were attending school in-person and their student opted for remote learning this school year, have the parent contact the school district to clarify why their student did not receive benefits. If their child did not participate in remote learning during the 20/21 school year, they are not eligible for P-EBT benefits.

**Q: If the family did not receive P-EBT benefits and they feel they were eligible, who do they contact?**

**A:** Benefits are for students eligible for free and reduced-price meals that have been affected by a school closure or adjusted school schedule for at least five consecutive days. Students that are attending school in-person full-time would not be eligible for P-EBT as they are receiving meals at the school. Home-schooled students are not participating in the National School Lunch Program and are not eligible. Since

eligibility is not determined by DHHS, parents should contact their School District with questions on why they were not eligible.

**Q: What can families buy with P-EBT benefits?**

**A:** Your P-EBT benefits can buy food at grocery stores and farmer’s markets that accept SNAP EBT and to purchase groceries online at Amazon and Walmart.

Use your P-EBT card like a debit card:

- Select “EBT”.
- Swipe the card.
- Enter your private PIN number.

**Q: When and how will benefits be issued?**

**A:** The chart below provides additional details in regards to the issuance of P-EBT benefits:

Months of eligibility reported by NDE	Dates benefits issued to EBT and P-EBT Cards	100% Remote Learners. Per child, per month	Part-time Remote Learners. Per child, per month
October – November	April 15	\$116	\$62
December - January	May 15	\$116	\$62
February – March	June 15	\$116	\$62
April – May	July 15	\$116	\$62
All months	August 15	\$116	\$62

- This benefit schedule will be followed if DHHS receives the information from the schools on eligible students. If the reports are not received timely from NDE, benefits will be issued on the next issuance date.

**Q: What about benefits for those students that were missed with the August/September issuance in September?**

**A:** Students that were missed with the first issuance in September for the months of August and September will receive an additional payment before the first issuance on April 15. Students eligible for this payment have been identified by each school.

**Q: Will the children in child care be receiving P-EBT benefits?**

**A:** DHHS is developing the plan for children in child care. Additional information will be provided once the plan has been finalized and approved.

**Q: Can P-EBT cards be sold for cash?**

**A:** P-EBT benefits cannot be sold or traded. Selling P-EBT benefits could cause you to be ineligible to receive benefits in the future.

**Q: How do I activate my P-EBT card?**

**A:** Call the number on the back of the P-EBT card, 877-247-6328, to activate the card and set your four digit pin.

# Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) File Upload

Please submit one or more comma separated value (.csv) or Excel files (.xls, .xlsx) for each month selected within the P-EBT File Upload application. These files are collected to enable students' families to qualify for the P-EBT benefits program managed by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

The file(s) should contain students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, and who were under any of these statuses during the given month:

- 1) The school was primarily operating in a Remote Only or Hybrid learning mode due to COVID-19
- 2) The student opted into attending remotely fulltime
- 3) The student was forced to attend remotely for a short time due to a quarantine

Please do not submit any data for students that do not qualify.

Upload your files using the column format below, which is also available in the [template file](#) downloaded through the P-EBT File Upload application in the NDE Portal:

Column Number	Name	Data Format	Notes
1	Parent/Guardian First Name	Alphanumeric	Name of primary parent/guardian who will be issued the benefit
2	Parent/Guardian Last Name	Alphanumeric	
3	Primary Language Spoken	Alphanumeric (optional)	Home language spoken by family for contact from DHHS, if available
4	Address Line 1	Alphanumeric	Home address of primary parent/guardian, used to issue benefit
5	Address Line 2	Alphanumeric (optional)	
6	City	Alphanumeric	
7	State	Alphanumeric (2 letters)	
8	Zip Code	Alphanumeric	
9	Parent Phone Number	Alphanumeric (xxx-xxx-xxxx) (optional)	Home phone of primary parent/guardian for contact from DHHS, if available
10	Parent E-mail Address	Alphanumeric	Email of primary parent/guardian for contact from DHHS, if available

11	Student First Name	Alphanumeric	The eligible student, as described above
12	Student Last Name	Alphanumeric	
13	Student Birth Date	Alphanumeric (yyyy-mm-dd)	Used for benefit issuances
14	NDE Student ID	Numeric (10 digits)	NDE's unique state student ID
15	NDE School Agency ID	Alphanumeric (xx-xxxx-xxx)	The 11-digit NDE agency ID of the school the student is enrolled at, used to match the student to the learning mode of their school during the given month
16	Fulltime Remote Opt-In	Alphanumeric (Y or N) (optional)	Indicate "Y" if the student opted into attending fulltime from home during the given month, indicate "N" or leave blank otherwise
17	Short Term Quarantine	Alphanumeric (Y or N) (optional)	Indicate "Y" if the student was forced to attend from home for part of the month due to a quarantine, indicate "N" or leave blank otherwise

# HERE IS YOUR P-EBT CARD

You may use your P-EBT Card attached below at participating SNAP authorized food retailers nationwide. If you do not want to accept P-EBT benefits or you received this card by mistake, then please destroy this card.

P-EBT benefits are non-transferable.

## Important!

- Download the ebtEDGE mobile app to view locations near you that accept P-EBT benefits.
- You must activate and select a Personal Identification Number (PIN) before you can use your card.
- Sign onto ebtEDGE to select your PIN or call Customer Service at the phone number on the back of your card
- If you lose or damage your card, a replacement can be requested via the ebtEDGE mobile app (if available in your state) or call Customer Service for a replacement card.

## If you are receiving a replacement card:

- You may not need to select a new PIN; your current PIN may carry over to this replacement card, if not...
- You can change your current PIN anytime by logging onto ebtEDGE or by calling Customer Service.

Check your balance and get other account information on ebtEDGE at [www.ebtedge.com](http://www.ebtedge.com) or download the FIS ebtEDGE mobile app.

**DO NOT THROW THIS CARD AWAY!**  
It is the only way to get your benefits!

P-EBT is a food benefit for children who are receiving free or reduced-priced school meals during the **COVID-19** pandemic.

## HOW TO USE YOUR P-EBT CARD

- Before you shop, always check your balance.
- Choose EBT on the Point-of-Sale (POS) machine.
- Swipe your EBT Card through the Point-of-Sale (POS) terminal.
- Enter your Personal Identification Number (PIN) on the keypad. The terminal will show \*\*\*\*.
- Press the OK or ENTER key.
- The cashier enters the purchase amount and, if it is correct, press the YES key. Choose EBT on the Point-of-Sale (POS) machine.
- If correct, press the YES key.
- The cashier will hand you your receipt; make sure the information on the receipt is correct.
- Keep this receipt so you will know your new balance the next time you shop.

## SELECTING A SECURE PIN

- Don't use a commonly-used combination, like repeating numbers (1111), or consecutive numbers (1234).
- Don't use numbers connected to your family's personal information, such as a year of birth.
- Don't use a number connected to any other personal information, such as a phone number or Social Security Number.
- Don't reuse a number that you've used for another purpose, like a PIN from a different card or your phone passcode.
- Do select a number that is significant for a private reason and a number easy to remember.

*Keep these instructions for your records*

Download the mobile app on



To use the QR code use your camera on your phone to scan the image and follow screen prompts

Scan QR Code for App



# ESTA ES SU TARJETA de P-EBT

Usted puede utilizar su tarjeta de P-EBT adjunta más abajo en las tiendas minoristas participantes de SNAP en todo el país. Si no desea aceptar los beneficios de P-EBT o si recibió esta tarjeta por error, por favor destruya la tarjeta de P-EBT. Los beneficios de P-EBT no son transferibles.

## ¡Importante!

- Descargue la aplicación móvil ebtEDGE para ver ubicaciones cerca de usted que aceptan los beneficios de P-EBT.
- Debe activar y seleccionar un Numero de Identificación Personal (PIN) antes de poder utilizar su tarjeta.
- Inicie la sesión en ebtEDGE para seleccionar su Número de Identificación Personal (PIN) o llame al Servicio al Cliente al número de teléfono que aparece en el reverso de su tarjeta.
- ¡Firme su nombre con tinta en la bandamagnética blanca al dorso de su tarjeta ahora!
- Si pierde o daña su tarjeta, puede solicitar un reemplazo a través de la aplicación móvil ebtEDGE (si está disponible en su estado) o llame al Servicio al Cliente para obtener una tarjeta de reemplazo.

## Si esta recibiendo una tarjeta de reemplazo:

- Es posible que no necesite seleccionar un nuevo Numero de Identificación Personal (PIN); su PIN actual puede transferirse a esta tarjeta de reemplazo, si no,
- Puede cambiar su PIN actual en cualquier momento iniciando la sesión en el sitio web o llamando al Servicio al Cliente.

Puede revisar su saldo y obtener otra información sobre su cuenta en ebtEDGE en [www.ebtedge.com](http://www.ebtedge.com) o descargando la aplicación móvil FIS ebtEDGE.

**¡NO DESECHE ESTA TARJETA!!**  
**¡Es la única forma de recibir sus beneficios!**

P-EBT es un beneficio alimenticio para los niños que reciben comida gratuita o reducida en las escuelas durante la pandemia de COVID-19.

«DATA12»  
«DATA13»  
«DATA14»  
«DATA15»



«DATA1»  
«DATA2»  
«DATA3»  
«DATA4»  
«DATA5»  
«DATA6»  
«DATA7»

Mantenga estas instrucciones para sus archivos

## CÓMO USAR SU TARJETA P-EBT

- Antes de hacer las compras, siempre revise su saldo.
- Elija EBT en la terminal del punto de venta (PDV).
- Pase su tarjeta P-EBT por la terminal del PDV.
- Ingrese su PIN en el teclado. La terminal mostrará \*\*\*\*.
- Oprima OK o ENTER.
- El cajero ingresará el total de su compra, y si es correcto, presione YES (Sí).
- El cajero le dará su recibo; asegúrese de que la información en el recibo sea correcta.

## ELIJA UN PIN SEGURO

- NO use una combinación común, como números repetidos (1111) o consecutivos (1234).
- NO use números conectados a la información personal de su familia, como los años de nacimiento.
- NO use un número conectado a información personal, como su número de teléfono o de Seguro Social.
- NO reutilice un número que haya usado para otro propósito, como el PIN de otra tarjeta o la contraseña de su teléfono.
- Seleccione un número que sea significativo por motivos privados y un número fácil de recordar.

## Descargue la aplicación móvil en



Para usar el código QR, utilice la cámara del teléfono para escanear la imagen y seguir las indicaciones en la pantalla

Scan QR Code for App

