

# School Resource

## Pandemic-Electronic Benefits Transfer

### P-EBT helps families buy food during COVID-19.

P-EBT is a food benefit for families who lost access to free or reduced-price meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligibility for P-EBT for Summer 2021 is based on eligibility during the 2020-21 school year. However, if a family became newly eligible for free or reduced-priced meals by August 28, 2021, they may also be eligible for this benefit.



### Eligibility

Summer P-EBT is for children who were enrolled in a Texas school in the last month of School Year 2020-21. Their school must participate in the National School Lunch Program.

In order to receive P-EBT benefits children must meet one of the following criteria below:

- ✓ Certified for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program at a Texas school during the 2020-21 school year OR determined newly eligible for the summer period between July 1, 2021 and August 28, 2021.
- ✓ Attend a school that offers free meals to all students through the Community Eligibility Provision or Provision 2.
- ✓ Received SNAP food benefits during the summer period.

- **Summer P-EBT benefits will be issued by December 27, 2021.**
- **The Summer P-EBT standard benefit amount is \$375 for each child who meets the eligibility criteria.**



### What should a family do if they did not receive the Summer P-EBT benefit, and they believe their child is eligible?

If a family has not received the benefit by December 27, 2021, they can call the P-EBT Call Center at 833-442-1255. Families should be prepared to provide additional information about where their child was enrolled in the 2020-21 school year, the campus where they are currently enrolled and when they believe they submitted the NSLP Form to their current campus of enrollment.



### What can families buy with the P-EBT card?

Household food items such as fruits, meats/poultry/fish, dairy, and breads. P-EBT benefits can be used wherever SNAP food benefits are accepted.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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 This product was funded by USDA.  
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





## Child Nutrition Department

# P-EBT Announcement

## Updated August 25, 2021

The Pandemic-Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) helped millions of Texas children who temporarily lost access to free school meals during the 2020-2021 school year. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently added a one-time summer P-EBT benefit. **Eligible families may be able to receive an additional \$375 to supplement their family's budget during the covered summer period.**

Families that meet one of the following criteria may receive the \$375 Summer Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) through a direct distribution from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

- Meet income eligibility guidelines for free or reduced-price school meals. For meal application information [click here](#).  
**NOTE:** Free & Reduced-Price Meal applications are due to NISD Child Nutrition by August 28<sup>th</sup> for potential P-EBT benefits.

-or-

- Attend a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school where all students receive free meals. For a list of NISD CEP campuses [click here](#).

If you received 2020–2021 school year P-EBT benefits, you do not need to take any action.

If you are newly eligible after July 1, the deadline to apply for P-EBT benefits is **September 13th**. The link to apply is <https://yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/PEBT>. (The link is case sensitive.)

### HHSC's P-EBT Webpage and Hotline for Families

For more information and questions, visit [hhs.texas.gov/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/pebt) (English) or [hhs.texas.gov/es/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/es/pebt) (Spanish), or call the P-EBT Call Center at 833-442-1255, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Central time



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Texas Health and Human Services is partnering with the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Education Agency to provide summer 2021 Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) benefits to eligible children.

Summer P-EBT (June–August) is for families with children (K–12) who are certified for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and for families with children born after Aug. 1, 2014, who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits. It is a one-time benefit of \$375 for each eligible child. *Receiving free meals at school does not automatically make a child eligible for P-EBT benefits.*

For more information about summer P-EBT, visit [hhs.texas.gov/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/pebt).

### Eligibility

Children in K–12 who were eligible for P-EBT benefits during the 2020–2021 school year are eligible for summer P-EBT benefits as long as they were enrolled in a Texas school during the last month of the school year. This includes children who did not receive 2020–2021 school year P-EBT benefits based on the virtual attendance percentage provided by their school.

- If you received 2020–2021 school year P-EBT benefits (because you completed the P-EBT online application or you automatically received benefits because you were part of a SNAP family), you will have summer P-EBT benefits automatically loaded on your Lone Star Card or P-EBT Card by Nov. 19. You do not need to take any action.
- If you were eligible but didn't receive 2020–2021 school year P-EBT benefits, did NOT receive SNAP benefits at any time between August 2020–August 2021, and have not already completed the 2020–2021 school year P-EBT online application, you can do one of the following:
  - Complete the 2020–2021 school year P-EBT online application by Sept. 13 to see if you are eligible for 2020–2021 school year P-EBT and summer 2021 P-EBT. The school year 2020–2021 P-EBT application link is <https://yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/PEBT>. Please type the link exactly as it's seen here, making sure to capitalize the letters that you see capitalized here. To complete the application, you will need the child's Social Security number or student "S-number," and the name of the child's school and district.
  - Complete and return the household application for free and reduced-price meals (NSLP form) to the Child Nutrition Department **on or before Aug. 28** to see if you are eligible for summer 2021 P-EBT. You must be found eligible for NSLP to be eligible for P-EBT. Contact the Child Nutrition Free & Reduced Office for information about completing this form.

If a family is found eligible, they do not need to take any further action to receive P-EBT; schools will be providing information to HHS to issue P-EBT benefits by Nov. 19. This includes families that are newly enrolled for the 2021–2022 school year at a CEP school and attended a Texas school that provided free meals through NSLP during the 2020–2021 school year.

Child care-aged children (born after Aug. 1, 2014) who received SNAP food benefits at any time between June 2021–August 2021 will automatically receive summer P-EBT benefits on their Lone Star Card by Oct. 15.

### **National School Lunch Program Eligibility**

Free meals provided by a school may or may not be through the NSLP. Some Texas school campuses offer free meals to all students due to the public health emergency. Receiving these free meals at school does not automatically make a student eligible for P-EBT. It is important to note that P-EBT benefits require individual income eligibility unless a child attends a CEP school.

Aug. 28, 2021, is the deadline for newly eligible families to send the household application for free and reduced-price meals (NSLP form) to be eligible for summer P-EBT. The deadline is Aug. 28 because it is the end of the summer P-EBT period. Forms received by the NISD Child Nutrition office after that date will not apply to summer P-EBT.

### **2020–2021 School Year**

NSLP eligibility for the 2020–2021 school year ended June 30, 2021. If you did not complete the NSLP household application for free and reduced-price meals, the deadline has passed. It cannot be completed to apply for 2020–2021 school year P-EBT.

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For more information about eligibility, applying and getting your P-EBT benefits, visit [hhs.texas.gov/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/pebt) or call the P-EBT Call Center at 833-442-1255, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Central time.

Estimados padres o tutores:

La Comisión de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Texas, en asociación con el Departamento de Agricultura de Texas y el Departamento de Educación de Texas, otorgará a los menores que reúnan los requisitos beneficios de Transferencia Electrónica de Beneficios durante la Pandemia (P-EBT) del verano de 2021.

Los beneficios de P-EBT del verano (de junio a agosto) son para las familias con menores de kínder al grado 12 que han sido certificados para recibir comidas gratuitas o a precio reducido a través del Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares (NSLP) y para las familias con niños nacidos después del 1 de agosto de 2014 que reciben beneficios de alimentos del Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP). Es un beneficio de \$375 que se entrega una sola vez por cada niño que llena los requisitos. *Recibir comidas escolares gratuitas no significa que el menor automáticamente reúna los requisitos para recibir los beneficios de P-EBT.*

Para más información sobre P-EBT del verano, visite [hhs.texas.gov/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/pebt).

## Requisitos

Los menores de kínder al grado 12 que llenaron los requisitos para recibir beneficios de P-EBT durante el año escolar 2020-2021 reúnen los requisitos para recibir beneficios de P-EBT del verano, siempre y cuando hayan estado matriculados en una escuela en Texas durante el último mes del año escolar. Este grupo incluye a los menores que no recibieron beneficios de P-EBT durante el año escolar 2020-2021 debido al porcentaje de asistencia virtual que reportó su escuela.

- Si usted recibió beneficios de P-EBT durante el año escolar 2020-2021 (porque llenó la solicitud en línea de P-EBT o porque usted recibió beneficios de forma automática por ser parte de una familia que tenía SNAP), usted recibirá automáticamente los beneficios de P-EBT del verano en su tarjeta Lone Star o de P-EBT a más tardar el 19 de noviembre. No tiene que hacer nada más.
- Si usted reunía los requisitos, pero no recibió beneficios de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021, NO recibió beneficios de SNAP en ningún momento de agosto de 2020 a agosto de 2021, y todavía no llena la solicitud en línea de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021, puede tomar una de las medidas siguientes:
  - Llenar la solicitud en línea de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021 a más tardar el 13 de septiembre para saber si reúne los requisitos de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021 y de P-EBT del verano de 2021. El enlace para la solicitud de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021 es <https://yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/PEBT> (para ver la página en español, haga clic en “Español” en la esquina superior derecha). Debe ingresar el enlace tal como aparece aquí, asegurándose de usar las mayúsculas como se indica. Para llenar la solicitud necesita el número de Seguro Social de su hijo o la matrícula de estudiante “S-number” y el nombre de la escuela y del distrito escolar.

- Llene y envíe al Departamento de Nutrición Infantil la solicitud para familias para recibir comidas gratuitas o a precio reducido (formulario de NSLP) **a más tardar el 28 de agosto**, para saber si reúne los requisitos de P-EBT del verano de 2021. Usted debe reunir los requisitos del programa NSLP para poder recibir los beneficios de P-EBT. Comuníquese con la Oficina de Nutrición Infantil Gratuita y Reducida para pedir información sobre cómo llenar el formulario.

Si se determina que una familia reúne los requisitos después de haber llenado el formulario de NSLP, esta familia ya no necesita hacer nada más para recibir beneficios de P-EBT. Las escuelas proporcionarán la información necesaria a Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS) para que se expidan los beneficios de P-EBT a más tardar el 19 de noviembre. Esto incluye a las familias con hijos que se acaban de matricular en una escuela CEP para el año escolar 2021-2022 y que asistieron a una escuela en Texas que ofreció comidas gratuitas a través del programa NSLP durante el año escolar 2020-2021.

Las familias de niños con edad para asistir a la guardería (nacidos después del 1 de agosto de 2014) que recibieron beneficios de alimentos de SNAP en algún momento de junio a agosto de 2021, automáticamente recibirán los beneficios de P-EBT del verano en su tarjeta Lone Star a más tardar el 15 de octubre.

### **Requisitos del Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares**

Es posible que las comidas gratuitas que se ofrecen en las escuelas no sean del programa NSLP. Algunas escuelas en Texas están ofreciendo comidas gratuitas a todos los estudiantes debido a la emergencia de salud pública. Recibir estas comidas escolares gratuitas no significa que el estudiante reúne automáticamente los requisitos para recibir los beneficios de P-EBT. Es importante tomar en cuenta que para recibir los beneficios de P-EBT se deben cumplir ciertos requisitos de ingresos, a menos que el menor asista a una escuela CEP.

El 28 de agosto de 2021 termina el plazo para que las familias que acaban de reunir los requisitos envíen la solicitud familiar de comidas gratuitas o a precio reducido (formulario de NSLP) y puedan recibir P-EBT del verano. El plazo termina el 28 de agosto porque ese día termina el periodo de P-EBT del verano. Los formularios que la oficina de nutrición infantil de NISD reciban después de esa fecha no serán considerados para el P-EBT del verano.

### **Año escolar 2020-2021**

El periodo de solicitud del programa NSLP para el año escolar 2020-2021 terminó el 30 de junio de 2021. Si no completó la solicitud de NSLP para el hogar para recibir comidas gratis o de precio reducido, la fecha límite ha vencido. Ya no puede llenar esa solicitud para obtener los beneficios de P-EBT del año escolar 2020-2021.

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Para más información sobre los requisitos y cómo solicitar y obtener los beneficios de P-EBT, visite [hhs.texas.gov/pebt](https://hhs.texas.gov/pebt) o llame al Centro de Llamadas de P-EBT al 833-442-1255, de lunes a viernes de 8 a.m. a 6 p.m., hora del centro.