



Pandemic Electronic Benefit (P-EBT) Questions and Answers

What is P-EBT?

P-EBT benefits provide families who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals with funds they can use to purchase groceries. P-EBT benefits replace the school meals children missed because their school was in a distance- or hybrid-learning model. Find out more on the [Minnesota Department of Human Services P-EBT](#) webpage.

Who qualifies for P-EBT?

To qualify for P-EBT in the 2020-21 school year both the child *and* the school must be eligible. A child in kindergarten through 12th grade is eligible if:

- They are receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), or tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits
- They attend a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school
- They have been approved by their school to receive free and reduced-price school meals by submitting an application for the current school year

A school is eligible if it was in distance-learning or hybrid-learning status for the majority of the school days of any given month.

What do I need to do?

If you are not receiving SNAP, MFIP or tribal TANF there are actions you may want to take. First check with your school to see if you are attending a Community Eligibility Provision school. If your child's school is not a Community Eligibility Provision school, ask your school about the application for free and reduced-price school meals.

If you have moved since the beginning of the school year, please verify that your school has your correct mailing address.

How much will I get?

Each child in the family will get a unique P-EBT amount. For children who spent the majority of the month in a distance-learning model, they will receive \$130. For children who spent the majority of the month in a hybrid-learning model, they will receive \$75. Children who are approved for free and reduced-price school meals

before Feb. 28, 2021, will begin to receive benefits in late March. All children will receive benefits retroactive to September on a staggered monthly schedule.

How and when will the funds arrive?

A separate P-EBT card will be mailed to each eligible child in the household. Cards will arrive in unmarked envelopes so be sure to open your mail regularly. Cards will list the child's name, card number, and P-EBT number. For families who are approved for free and reduced-price school meals by February 28, 2021, cards will be issued in late March.