

Pandemic-EBT helps families feed their kids

When schools closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of thousands of Minnesota's students lost access to school breakfast and lunch. For students who receive free & reduced price school meals, this has been a big gap in their access to food.

The USDA recently approved the state of Minnesota's application for Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) to help families replace the meals their children lost because schools are closed.



What do you get?

P-EBT is a payment \$325 per student now and an extra \$100 per student in August.

Who is eligible for P-EBT?

A lot of Minnesota's students are eligible. Families with children ages 5-18 as of Sept. 1, 2019 are eligible for P-EBT if your child's school is closed due to COVID-19 and:

You were receiving SNAP or MFIP benefits as of March 18, 2020;

or

Your child was receiving free or reduced-price school meals during the 2019-2020 school year;

or

Your child is enrolled in a school that offers free school meals to all students regardless of the family's income.

Students in district-run pre-K programs who were receiving free or reduced-price school meals are also eligible.

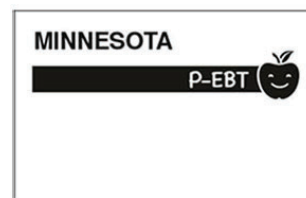
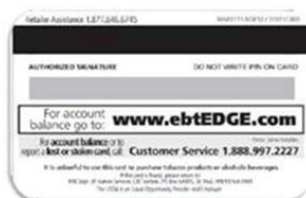
How do you get P-EBT?

P-EBT is being issued two ways:

Families who were already on SNAP or MFIP on March 18, 2020 have already had the \$325 per child loaded on their EBT card.

or

Families who were receiving free or reduced-price meals or attending a school that offers free meals to all students **need to apply** for P-EBT. You will be mailed a black and white EBT card that is loaded with \$325 per student.



How do you apply?

Apply online at <https://mn.p-ebt.org>.

Hurry! Applications must be completed by July 31, 2020!

What can P-EBT be used to buy?

You can use P-EBT to buy the same things regular SNAP benefits buy. Most food items are eligible:



Fruits and Vegetables



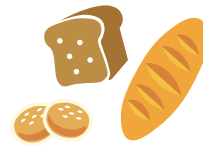
Meat, Fish, Eggs, and Dairy



Honey and Maple Products



Jams, Jellies, Pickles, and Sauces



Baked Goods



Seeds and Plants that Produce Food

The benefits “expire” 365 days after they are issued.

Will getting P-EBT make me a public charge?

Even though P-EBT uses the same type of card as SNAP, P-EBT is NOT SNAP benefits and is not considered in a public charge test.

My family does not have access to the internet or a computer. Can we submit a paper application?

An *online* application must be completed between June 8, 2020, and July 31, 2020 at mn.p-ebt.org. Contact the P-EBT Hotline at 651-431-4050 or 800-657-3698 for additional assistance completing an application or contact the Minnesota Food HelpLine for assistance at 888-711-1151.

My family does not read or write English. Is there someone who can help me?

You can contact the P-EBT Hotline at 651-431-4050 or 800-657-3698 for help with translating and/or completing the application.

I still have questions. Where do I go for help?

DHS has established a P-EBT Hotline to address questions which will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants with questions can call 651-431-4050 or 800-657-3698 or you can send questions through the DHS website. More information is posted on <https://mn.gov/dhs/p-ebt/>

If you have questions about P-EBT or other food resources, you can call the Minnesota Food HelpLine 888-711-1151 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Over-the-phone language interpreters are available.