

**1. What is Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) and how is a child on SNAP and under age 6 eligible?**

Federal law allows States to implement a temporary program called Pandemic- Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), which provides eligible children with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) benefits. Preschool (Pre-K) through 12th grade students within eligible school buildings who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) may be eligible for P-EBT benefits. Children on SNAP, under the age of 6 who are not in school, are eligible for P-EBT benefits based on monthly reduction of meals provided to children at child care centers across the state in month. P-EBT is a separate benefit in addition to a family's normal monthly SNAP benefit.

The program is administered by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Department is partnering with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to ensure eligible children receive this important benefit.

2. How much will an eligible child receive?

Each eligible child will receive **\$8.18** per day (the combined daily federal reimbursement rate for breakfast, lunch, and a snack for school year 2021-2022) for the number of eligible P-EBT days in the month. The number of eligible P-EBT days is based on the statewide average number of days representing the reduction in meals at child care centers. This number could vary each month for August 2022 through May 2023. The amount for August – December 2022 is 3 days, totaling \$24.54 per month.

The amounts for January through May 2023 are still to be determined based on data to be received.

3. How are P-EBT benefits issued?

For each month a child is eligible for P-EBT, ODJFS will issue the P-EBT benefits to the SNAP account the child is currently receiving SNAP benefits on. The benefits are used just like SNAP benefits.

4. How often will this benefit be issued?

If your child meets the P-EBT eligibility criteria in a month, benefits will be provided as follows:

- The August, September, October, November, and December 2022 and January 2023 benefits will be issued and available by the end of February 2023. You may receive some of your benefits earlier in the month, and some benefits later in the month. It may also vary for each child.
- February benefits will be issued by the end of March 2023.
- March benefits will be issued by the end of April 2023.
- April benefits will be issued by the end of May 2023.
- May benefits will be issued by the end of June 2023.

In order for local grocery stores to be better stocked, P-EBT benefits are issued over multiple days in the last two weeks of the month rather than on a single day. Your child's benefit will be issued on a certain day based on the first letter of their last name. For example, last names beginning with A-D may receive their benefits on the 20th of the month, then E-G on the 21st, etc. This day will vary each month.

Please note, not every child will receive the P-EBT benefits on the same day, but every child will receive their benefits **by the end of the month**.

5. Can a family apply for P-EBT benefits?

No. P-EBT does not have an application for children on SNAP, under the age of 6, not in school.

6. How long will a family have access to the P-EBT benefits?

The P-EBT benefits will be available for 9 months. If after 9 months the P-EBT benefits have not been spent, they will be removed (expunged) from the account. Current SNAP households will still have access to their remaining SNAP benefits.

7. Who should a family contact if they have questions regarding P-EBT?

For general program questions, questions about your child's benefits, please call the P-EBT customer service line at 1-866-244-0071 Option 1.