

### 1. *What is Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)?*

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. 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. *Is a child on SNAP, not in school, and under 6 eligible?*

Due to recent federal law changes, children on SNAP, under the age of 6 who are not in school, and reside in a county where one or more schools is closed or is operating with reduced attendance or hours are eligible for P-EBT as of October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for the months they meet these requirements. P-EBT is a separate benefit in addition to a families' normal monthly SNAP benefit.

### 3. *What types of school schedules meet P-EBT eligibility requirements?*

Examples of potentially eligible school schedules are the following situations where no meal is provided for students at school:

- All children are participating in fully remote learning;
- Children in hybrid learning; or
- Children who have the option of attending fully remote (e.g. Virtual academies), even though the school is operating fully in-person.

### 4. *How much will an eligible child receive?*

Each child will receive **\$6.82** per day (the combined daily federal reimbursement rate for breakfast, lunch, and a snack for school year 2020-2021) for the statewide average number of days of P-EBT benefits were issued to school age students each month. This number could vary each month.

For October 2020 the amount is \$115.94 (17 days).

For November 2020 the amount is \$88.66 (13 days).

For December 2020 the amount is \$88.66 (13 days).

For January 2021 the amount is \$102.30 (15 days).

For February 2021 the amount is \$95.48 (14 days).

The amounts for March through June 2021 are still to be determined based on school data to be received.

**5. 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. Go to <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/eligible-food-items> for a list of eligible food items than be bought with SNAP benefits.

**6. 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 October, November, December, January and February benefits will be issued by the end of April.

- March benefits will be issued by the end of May.
- April benefits will be issued by the end of June.
- May benefits will be issued by the end of July.
- June benefits will be issued by the end of August.

**7. Can a family apply for P-EBT benefits?**

No. P-EBT does not have an application.

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

The P-EBT benefits will be available for 12 months. If after 12 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.

**9. 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.