



COVID-19 NC RESPONSE

2020-2021 School Year: NC Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Information

(P-EBT)

Who is eligible and how much is the P-EBT benefit?

Families do not need to apply for P-EBT. School and student information will be used to determine eligibility and benefit amount through both student and learning circumstances.

To be eligible for P-EBT, a student must meet two criteria:

1. Be enrolled in a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program and
2. Be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Student eligibility is determined by:

- **Direct Certification** (household receives FNS benefits), or
- **Categorical Eligibility** (homeless, migrant, foster, etc.), or
- **Participation in a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) School** (where all students receive meals at no cost), or
- **Household Applications for Free/Reduced-Price Meals**

AND the student must meet BOTH of the following learning circumstances:

1. The student's school was closed or has been operating with reduced attendance (e.g., Plan B, partially in-person and partially virtual) for at least 5 consecutive days during the 2020 to 2021 school year, **AND**
2. The student is learning in a "remote learning mode" (all virtual instruction) or in a "hybrid learning mode" (combination of virtual and in-person instruction) during the month.

The student's **learning mode** is assessed each month using information reported by the schools to determine the benefit amount.

1. **Hybrid learning mode:** Students in virtual instruction less than 100% of instructional days in a month and at least 1 day of virtual instruction in a month will receive the hybrid amount. The hybrid amount can change month to month and is determined by the average number of days North Carolina schools using a hybrid schedule conducted virtual instruction for that month multiplied by the daily benefit rate of \$6.82.
2. **Remote learning mode:** Students in virtual instruction 100% of the instructional days in a month, will receive a benefit of \$115.94 for that month.

To apply for free or reduced-price meals at school, please contact your child's school for an application.

When will benefits be issued?

Starting in February or March, benefits will be issued retroactively. Benefits issuance will be staggered over several days each month.

How do I use or activate my P-EBT card?

If you already have an EBT card, your child's benefits will be added automatically, and you can use the EBT card as you previously have. Those who do not have a card and are eligible should anticipate receiving a new EBT card in the mail.

You can activate or order a new card in one of the following ways:

1. Visit www.ebtedge.com. Click on "More Information" under EBT Cardholder. You will be prompted to login and/or register your account.
2. Download the ebtEDGE mobile app. The app is available on Apple Store and Google Play.
3. Call 1-888-622-7328 and follow the prompts to activate your card and select a PIN.

To activate the EBT card and select a PIN, enter the date of birth of the youngest student in your household. It might be necessary to try the date of birth of other students in your household if the first attempt does not work. Enter the date of birth using two digits for the month, two digits for the day, and four digits for the year. For example, if the date of birth is June 1, 2008, you would enter 06012008.

Resource Information

- More information about the P-EBT program can be found at www.ncdhhs.gov/PEBT.
- For the latest information on COVID-19, visit nc.gov/covid19.
- For locations of schools & community meal sites, text "FOODNC" or "COMIDA" to 877-877.
- For information on other food resources, visit nc211.org or call 2-1-1 or 1-888-892-1162. Please note that 2-1-1 cannot assist with eligibility or benefit amount.



For more information,
visit www.ncdhhs.gov/PEBT.



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