

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)

Effective: July 30, 2020

The Why:

The Pandemic-EBT or P-EBT program is a nutrition assistance program for school aged children who were eligible to participate in free or reduced price school meals during the 2019-2020 school year, but lost access due to pandemic-related school closures. The Department of Workforce Services and the Utah State Board of Education are working together to issue the P-EBT payment.

The Facts:

A school aged child must meet the following criteria to be eligible for a P-EBT payment.

- Be between the ages of 5 and 18 on March 16, 2020.
- Be eligible to receive free or reduced price school meals **or attended a school that is designated as having a majority of children eligible on March 16, 2020.**
- Some students under the age of 5 and over the age of 18 may be eligible. The following are common examples.
 - Prekindergarten students attending schools that provide free or reduced price school meals may be eligible for P-EBT.
 - Students attending schools that provide Transition Services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and provide free or reduced price school meals would be eligible for P-EBT.

Each eligible child will receive \$308 in P-EBT benefits. P-EBT works the same way Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits do and will help families get the food they need during the current pandemic.

- Children that received SNAP benefits on March 16, 2020, do NOT need to apply for the P-EBT benefits. P-EBT benefits in the amount of \$308 per eligible child will automatically issue to the SNAP EBT card On August 3rd. These will show up in their March decision screen as SNAP Pandemic EBT.
- Non-SNAP households will be required to apply for the P-EBT benefits. The application will only be accepted online at jobs.utah.gov/PEBT and will be available August 1st through August 31st. All cases will be processed no later than September 30th.
- Students, under the age of 5 and over the age of 18, who were eligible to receive free or reduced priced meals on March, 16, 2020 will be required to apply for P-EBT benefits whether they were in a SNAP or Non-SNAP Household.
- Non-SNAP household cases will be managed by a specialized team. This team has a direct phone number that will be provided to the customer when they apply. The phone number is 833-940-2990.
- If you receive a phone call about the P-EBT program please direct customers to the FAQ's found on <https://jobs.utah.gov/covid19/pebt/index.html> or you may transfer the call to 833-940-2990 starting August 3rd.

Bottom Line:

Children who received SNAP benefits on March 16, 2020, do not need to apply for the P-EBT benefits. P-EBT benefits in the amount of \$308 per eligible child will automatically issue to the SNAP EBT card during the first week of August. You will be able to see this benefit in their March SNAP benefit issuance details.

Children who were not on SNAP benefits on March 16, 2020, will be required to apply for the benefit. A specialized team will process these applications. P-EBT benefits in the amount of \$308 per eligible child will be issued to a P-EBT card (by the specialized team) and mailed to the customer no later than September 30th.