

## Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (Summer EBT) Program

Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program for Children (Summer EBT), also known as SUN Bucks, is new in summer 2024. Summer EBT provides grocery benefits to low-income families with school-aged children when schools are closed for the summer. Summer EBT benefits will either be loaded to a household's Ohio Direction Card or a benefit card will be sent in the mail in a plain white envelope addressed to each eligible child.

Families will receive a one-time benefit of \$120 for each eligible child and can use the money to buy food during the summer at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other authorized retailers.

### WHO WILL RECEIVE SUMMER EBT AUTOMATICALLY:

All children between the ages of 6 to 18 participating in one or more of the following assistance programs (on or after July 1, 2023) will receive Summer EBT automatically with no need to apply:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Ohio Works First (OWF)
- Medicaid (if income meets USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines for current program year)

Children of any age enrolled in a school participating in the National School Lunch Program that are approved for free or reduced-price meals for school year 2023-2024 will also receive Summer EBT automatically with no need to apply. If your address has changed this year be sure to update it with your school district or benefit issuance agency (SNAP, Medicaid, OWF) to ensure your benefit card is sent to the right address.

### STUDENTS NOT CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS:

- Don't forget to submit a free and reduced application with the school if you feel your household might qualify. Applications approved by June 11, 2024 will automatically qualify for the new Summer EBT benefit program, to be used to pay for groceries during the summer months. Access a school application here: <http://www.shelbyk12.org/food-service>

### WHEN WILL BENEFITS BE AVAILABLE:

Households with children already participating in SNAP, OWF, Medicaid with household income within the free or reduced-price school meal guidelines, or certified for free or reduced-price school meals during the school year will receive their benefit by July 31. Check back regularly for updates. Note: benefits will be issued over many days so children in the same household may receive their benefit on a different day from one another.

Households that become eligible for SNAP, OWF, or Medicaid during the summer, or apply for Summer EBT using the Summer EBT application will receive benefits within two months after being approved.

### WILL THE SUMMER EBT BENEFITS BE ON A NEW CARD OR LOADED TO THE P-EBT CARD?

Households with active SNAP accounts should have benefits loaded to their Ohio Direction Card. All other households will receive a new Summer EBT card in the mail for each eligible child. The card will arrive in a plain white envelope and be addressed to the child. Any past summer P-EBT cards can be thrown away.

### HOW LONG WILL SUMMER EBT FUNDS BE AVAILABLE FOR USE:

Summer EBT funds will expire after 122 days after the benefit is issued. If the benefit is loaded on the Ohio Direction Card, the Summer EBT benefit will be used first the next time you visit a store.

### CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SUMMER EBT ASSISTANCE:

- General Summer EBT support questions: 1-866-244-0071, option 1
- Summer EBT card support: 1-866-386-3071
- Questions about Free or Reduced-Price meal eligibility: If the child attends a school on the National School Lunch Program, households should reach out to the child's school first to discuss free or reduced-price meal eligibility questions.