

# How to Apply for P-EBT



**The deadline to apply for P-EBT food benefits has been extended to July 31.** Please review the criteria to see if your family is eligible and needs to apply for benefits. Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) is a one-time benefit for eligible families to buy food.

P-EBT is for families who meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Children up to 21 years old who are certified for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program at school in Texas during the 2019-20 school year.
- Children 5-18 years old who received SNAP food benefits for the month of March 2020.
- Children who attend a school that offers free meals to all students through Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 (P2).

**Immigration status does not matter when applying for P-EBT. The public charge rule does not apply to P-EBT benefits.**

## Who needs to complete an online application?

- Families that did NOT receive SNAP benefits for the month of March 2020 AND have children who are certified for free or reduced-price school meals or who attend a school that offers free meals to all students through the National School Lunch Program.
- Families that received SNAP benefits for the month of March 2020, with children under 5 and/or between the ages of 19 and 21 as of March 17, 2020. These children must have been approved for free or reduced-price school meals or attend a school that offered free meals to all students through the National School Lunch Program.

## Who does not need to submit an application?

- Families that received SNAP benefits for the month of March 2020 who have children ages 5-18 as of March 17, 2020 do not need to apply. Benefits were loaded onto your existing SNAP card at the end of May. No action is needed.

## How do I apply?

- Your school should have emailed you the application link in early June. The application will be open until July 31, 2020.
- If you did not receive an application link or if you need help filling out the P-EBT application, please contact the P-EBT Call Center at **833-613-6220** Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.
- If you get SNAP benefits and your child is approved for P-EBT, Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) will put funds on your current Lone Star Card. If you do not currently get SNAP benefits, HHS will mail you a P-EBT card loaded with benefits.

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## What information do families need to complete the application?

The application will ask for information about each child and the parent that is applying. It is important that you complete as much information as possible.

The following information is **required** on the application:

- Head of household first name
- Head of household last name
- Head of household date of birth
- Head of household sex
- Head of household mailing address
- Home phone
- Cell or daytime number
  - It is important to put a valid phone number on the application because Texas Health and Human Services staff may need to call to approve the application.
- Child first name
- Child last name
- Child sex
- Child date of birth
- School District Name
- Type of school (public, private, charter, or other)

The following information is **optional** on the application for each child:

- Child's middle name
- Child's Social Security
- School ID #
  - While this term can vary depending on your school or district, it may be referred to as Student ID or Local ID. You should be able to find the number on your child's report card, by logging into the student or parent portal, or by asking your child.

## Ready to fill out an application?

The application is open until July 31, 2020. Eligible families will receive the link to the P-EBT application from their school.

## Do you have questions about P-EBT?

For more information, please visit <http://hhs.texas.gov/pebt>. For questions regarding eligibility or if you need help applying, contact the P-EBT Call Center at **833-613-6220** Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.