

Summer EBT Program

In summer 2024, North Dakota will launch Summer EBT a new grocery benefits program that provides families \$120 for each eligible school-aged child to buy groceries when school is out. Summer is a time when many children lose the free and reduced-price meals they get at school, and when households might need a little extra help putting meals on the table. Most families will get these benefits automatically, but some parents will need to apply. The new program is in addition to free meals that kids of all ages can get at summer meal sites in their communities.

Benefits of Summer EBT:

- Helps parents and caregivers buy healthy foods for their children.
- Gives families the flexibility to select foods that fit their culture and lifestyle.
- Improves food security and diet quality for participating children.

Eligibility:

Children are eligible for the program if:

- the household already participates in SNAP, FDPIR, or TANF, OR
- the child attends a school that offers the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program and the household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.

Enrollment:

NDDPI will use student information that is collected from districts to determine student eligibility and to issue benefits. However, LEAs that don't report student enrollment information to NDDPI will be asked to provide a spreadsheet with data needed to provide SEBT benefits to their eligible students.

Many families will get Summer EBT automatically if they are getting other benefits, but some families may need to apply.

- If the household already participates in SNAP, FDPIR, or TANF, they will be automatically enrolled in the Summer EBT program. Households do not need to fill out an application.
- If the household is not automatically enrolled and may be eligible, they can apply Summer EBT by filling out a simple application.

To learn more about filling out an application, contact Linda Schloer at lkschloer@nd.gov

How Summer EBT Works:

The benefits will be provided on a separate EBT card for each eligible student and can be used to buy groceries. Families will receive \$120 per eligible child for the summer. Benefits can be used at authorized retailers, like grocery stores and farmers markets, to purchase healthy foods like fruits, vegetables, meats and other protein sources, whole grains, and dairy.

Help Families in Your Community:

- Spread the word to families in your community! Let households know about the new Summer EBT program.
- Encourage families who receive free or reduced-price meals to make sure their mailing address is up to date.

Children and teens need healthy food year-round to play, grow, and learn. Summer EBT will help families stretch their grocery budget during the summer and provide their children with the nutrition they need to thrive.

Stay tuned for more information regarding Summer EBT in North Dakota!