

Pandemic-EBT Assistance Guide

P-EBT Quick Facts

- P-EBT is a one-time benefit for families that have lost access to free or reduced-price meals because of closures related to COVID-19.
 - **P-EBT is \$285 per eligible child.**
 - Some families have already received their P-EBT benefits, while others still need to apply (more details below).
 - **The online application and the telephone hotline will go active on June 1, 2020 and stay active through at least June 30, 2020.**
 - Non-citizens ARE eligible for P-EBT and receiving P-EBT benefits will NOT hurt their immigration status. P-EBT is not counted under public charge.
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When assisting someone with P-EBT, please use the following questions to determine their eligibility and whether or not they need to apply:

- 1. Does your child eat lunch at their school for free or a reduced price (\$0.40)?**
P-EBT is for children up to 21 years old who were certified for free or reduced-price meals at school in Texas during the 2019-2020 school year. This includes any child that is directly enrolled in the Free & Reduced Price Lunch Program, or any child that goes to a school where all children eat for free (CEP or Provision 2 schools).
 - a. **If yes, you ARE eligible for P-EBT. Continue to next question.**
 - b. **If no, you are NOT eligible for P-EBT.**
- 2. Did you receive SNAP benefits for the month of March 2020? And is your child between 5-18 years old?**
 - a. **If yes to BOTH, you will NOT need to fill out an application.** *SNAP recipients with children ages 5-18 do not need to apply.*
 - i. Your benefits should have already been loaded onto your Lone Star Card. You can log in to your account on YourTexasBenefits.com to check the balance of your card.
 - ii. If you do not see benefits already loaded onto your card, you should FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR P-EBT.
 - b. **If no to EITHER question, you will need to FILL OUT AN APPLICATION for P-EBT.** *Families that are not enrolled in SNAP, or newly enrolled in SNAP (April 2020 or later), and families with children under 5 or over 18 will need to apply online.*
 - i. You should receive an email from your school district with a link to the online application, or you can call 833-613-6220 to apply over the phone.
- 3. If someone needs assistance with the P-EBT application, there are three ways to help:**
 - a. Direct them to call the state hotline number (833-613-6220) to receive help applying from a state employee.

- b. Ask them to pull up the application on their computer using the link that was sent to them by their school district. You may also pull up the application on your computer if they do not have access to one (you would need them to give you the link). Either way, assist them in filling out the application over the phone.
 - c. If they do not have access to a computer or phone, ask if they would like to come to the food bank to use a publicly accessible computer to apply.
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What information is needed to apply?

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
- 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.

Additional Resources

- [HHSC's P-EBT FAQ](#) – English and Spanish
- [TEA's Communications and Outreach Materials for School Districts](#) – English and Spanish

More Questions?

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