

**2024 Summer EBT**  
**School Administration Frequently Asked Questions**  
**2023-2024 School Year**

**What is S-EBT**

**1. What is Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer EBT)?**

- Summer EBT is a federally funded program that provides grocery-buying benefits to low-income families with school-aged children when schools are closed for the summer as a supplement to summer meal sites. This may include students in Head Start and/or Great Start Readiness Program. The Summer-EBT program is also known federally as Sun Bucks.

**Eligibility**

**1. How do I know if our district/school is eligible?**

- Unlike Pandemic EBT benefits, Summer EBT issuance will not depend on individual school eligibility or COVID-19 related absences.

**2. How do I know which students are eligible?**

- Summer EBT eligibility is based on:
  - Direct Certification
  - Categorical Eligibility
  - Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligibility
  - Summer EBT Application

**3. My school is a CEP school, are these students eligible?**

- Summer EBT issuance will not depend on individual school eligibility. Students attending CEP schools will be issued benefits if they:
  - Are Directly Certified
  - Are Categorically Eligible
  - Are deemed eligible after completing the Education Benefits Form

**4. My school has already received School Meal and Summer EBT Applications/Education Benefits Forms (for CEP schools) from our families. Do they need to fill out new forms to be eligible for Summer EBT?**

- No, if the application/form was received and processed for the 2023-2024 school year, the eligibility determination can be used for 2024 Summer EBT.

**5. Are students that reside in a residential institution eligible for Summer EBT benefits?**

- No, students residing in a residential institution are not eligible for Summer EBT.

**6. How do I know if my school participates in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program?**

- Search for your school here: [NSLP/SBP Participation List](#)

**7. Who should I contact with questions about school eligibility in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program?**

- Information on National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program is available at: [michigan.gov/schoolnutrition](http://michigan.gov/schoolnutrition)

**Free and Reduced-Price Eligibility and Michigan School Data System (MSDS)**

**1. How is student eligibility reported?**

- Data entered in MSDS by the schools in the Supplemental Nutrition Eligibility (SNE) component is used to identify eligible students.
  - CEPI provides MDHHS with a list of potentially eligible students.
  - MDHHS receives periodic updates from CEPI including General Collection and SRM Collection data.
- MDHHS cannot change Free/Reduced status in MSDS.

**2. How will student addresses be determined?**

- If a student is active on a Food Assistance case with MDHHS, the address associated with their Food Assistance case will be used.
- For students on Medicaid (MA) but not Food Assistance, the address associated with their Medicaid case will be used.
- For all other students, the address reported in MSDS will be used.
  - If a mailing address is available in MSDS, that will be used.
  - If no mailing address, then the physical address will be used.

**3. When is the MSDS data pull taking place?**

- The initial data pull from MSDS will occur after the Spring collection data has been certified and validated.
- A subsequent data pull from MSDS will occur prior to the end of the Summer EBT operational period (August 31).

**4. How can I report a change to a student's address or Supplemental Nutrition Eligibility (SNE) status after the Spring collection has been certified?**

- The Student Record Maintenance (SRM) collection can be used to update student addresses and SNE status after the Spring General collection is closed. Any changes must be certified by 11:59 pm on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> to be included in the initial data pull.

**5. Will there be a data validation check on the addresses used from the MSDS?**

- MDE/MDHHS will conduct checks on address accuracy, but unfortunately MDE is unable to catch everything.
- Please work with your staff to ensure the address data provided is the best possible information.

**Summer EBT Benefit Issuance**

**1. How much will eligible children receive?**

- For 2024, Summer EBT benefits will be issued in the amount of \$40 per summer month, or \$120 total.

**2. How will benefits be issued?**

- Any eligible student on an active SNAP or TANF case will receive their Summer EBT benefits on the EBT/Bridge card attached to that case.
- Any eligible student approved for Medicaid where household income does not exceed 185% of the Federal Poverty Level will receive their benefits on a Summer EBT card in the Head of Household's name. Benefits for all eligible students in that household will be on one card.
- All other eligible students will receive a new Summer EBT card in the mail. A separate card will be sent for each eligible student.

**3. When will Summer EBT cards be mailed?**

- We anticipate the first benefit cycle to begin in July.

**4. For students who received a Pandemic EBT card last year, will they reuse last school year's card?**

- Any eligible student on an active SNAP or TANF case will receive their Summer EBT benefits on the EBT/Bridge card attached to that case.
- Any eligible student approved for Medicaid where household income does not exceed 185% of the Federal Poverty Level will receive their benefits on a Summer EBT card in the Head of Household's name. Benefits for all eligible students in that household will be on one card.

- All other eligible students will receive a new Summer EBT card in the mail. A separate card will be sent for each eligible student.

**5. Will there be an explanation of the benefits sent to parents?**

- Yes, a notice will be sent to parent(s)/guardians of all students that receive Summer EBT benefits.
- The notice will include instructions on how to activate and use the card, where the card can be used, and more.

**6. How will cards be issued for McKinney/Vento students?**

- Summer EBT cards for McKinney/Vento students will be issued in the students' name, care of the district Homeless Education Liaison. More information will be provided.

**7. I received a Summer EBT card for a student who no longer attends my school/district. What do I do with it?**

- Mark the envelope as "Return to Sender- Not at this Address".
- Close securely and return.
  - DHHS will maintain a log of returned cards for tracking and reissuance purposes.

**Miscellaneous**

**1. Who do I contact with questions?**

- School staff/administration can send an email to [MDE-SEBT@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SEBT@michigan.gov)
- Parents/families can send an email to [MDHHS-SEBT@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-SEBT@michigan.gov) or call (833)905-0028, option 2.

**2. Where should we direct parents who have not received last year's Pandemic EBT benefits?**

- Please have the parent contact the MDHHS P-EBT Helpdesk at (833)-905-0028, option 2.

**3. Will schools receive funding from the state to assist with processing Summer EBT applications?**

- No, there will not be funding provided to schools related to 2024 Summer EBT.