



## 2022 Summer P-EBT Q&A for Schools

### Introduction

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (the FFCRA), as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021, authorizes USDA to approve an extension of the state P-EBT plan during the 2022 “covered summer period”. The following document provides an overview of the Iowa 2022 Summer P-EBT program including the school’s role in facilitating this program.

### 1. How is eligibility for Summer P-EBT determined?

P-EBT is available this summer to Iowa students (K-12) enrolled in a school participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) who were eligible to receive NSLP free or reduced-price meals during the 2021-22 school year. It also includes students who are determined to be newly eligible for NSLP free or reduced-price meals during the covered summer period (up to and including August 1, 2022). No-cost school meals provided in the school year 2021-22 through the Summer Food Service Program do not qualify students for P-EBT benefits.

The Department submitted summer P-EBT eligibility data to the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (Iowa HHS) in September using the June 2022 School Reporting in Iowa (SRI) data submission.

Note: Students attending a virtual academy during school year 2021-22 are not eligible to receive P-EBT benefits due to the virtual academy not participating in NSLP.

### 2. What is the school’s role in summer P-EBT for schools participating in Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI)?

The Department will obtain the student data from the school’s June Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI) submitted data as well as the July 1 and August 1 Direct Certification lists. No action is required from schools using SRI or FAST for this to occur.

### 3. How can a student become newly eligible for the summer P-EBT benefit?

Students may become newly eligible for NSLP free and reduced-price meals during the summer by submitting the Iowa Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application and being approved between the last day of school year 2021-22 and Aug.1, 2022; or receiving a DHS Free Lunch Notice Letter; or being directly certified during this timeframe.

Newly eligible students who submitted and were approved through the Iowa Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application are NOT included in the data file pulled through SRI. See Question #5 for more information on the process of including the newly eligible students.

### 4. Will the Department contact a school district/nonpublic school regarding P-EBT?



The vast majority of P-EBT inquiries will be resolved through the Iowa HHS P-EBT telephone number listed in the [Iowa HHS P-EBT webpage](#). The Department may contact a school district or nonpublic school if additional information is needed to respond to a P-EBT inquiry received through the IDHHS P-EBT customer call center.

Parents of eligible students, who became newly eligible between the last day of school year 2021-22 and Aug. 1, will need to contact IDHHS (833-631-2508) to confirm the student's eligibility. Any parent or guardian seeking information on their student should not call before November as Iowa HHS will not have information to provide before that time. The student will be determined to be eligible or ineligible through the Department and School verification process. The Department will reach out to your P-EBT school contact. Your P-EBT school contact will only receive an inquiry if Iowa HHS received questions concerning your students P-EBT eligibility.

## **5. What is the school's role if they are a nonpublic school and not participating in SRI?**

Eligible nonpublic schools not participating in SRI or FAST have submitted contact information for the students (K-12) who were eligible for NSLP free and reduced-price meal benefits in May 2022, before the end of the 2021-22 school year. Also included all students (K-12) who became newly eligible for free and reduced-price meals through either a paper Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application between the last day of school year 2021-22 and August 1 and determined to be eligible; or, received a DHS Free Lunch Notice Letter; or, were directly certified during this timeframe.

Any eligible students that have graduated were also included, assuming they were still enrolled as of May 2022.

Patti Harding and Stacie Schafer, both in the Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services, have contacted eligible nonpublic schools in September and provided guidance on how to complete and submit a P-EBT Nonpublic Student Reporting Form. No further student information can be submitted for 2022 Summer P-EBT

## **6. What is the 2022 summer P-EBT benefit per eligible student?**

A fixed summer benefit of \$391 per eligible student will be paid out to eligible students by late November. Any newly eligible students, confirmed to be eligible through the Department and School verification process, will receive the fixed summer benefit of \$391 through a second disbursement of P-EBT benefits after the initial benefits have been issued.

## **7. Will new cards be issued to eligible students?**

A new P-EBT card will be mailed to all eligible students. If an eligible student has moved over the summer, the student's parent or guardian must update their address with their 2021-22 school for verification. The student's parent or guardian should then call 1-833-631-2508 to get a new card reissued.

## **8. Is there more information available on the USDA P-EBT Program?**

Summer P-EBT information for schools is available on the [Department's P-EBT webpage](#). Parents and guardians may call 833-631-2508 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit the [Iowa Department of Health and Human Services website](#).