



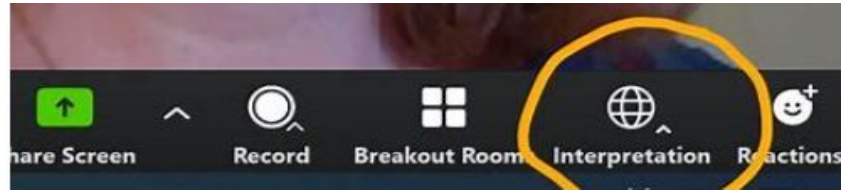
Summer EBT 101

How to Support Families
in Summer 2024

June 13, 2024

Housekeeping

- This webinar will be presented in English and Spanish please click on the interpretation icon at the bottom of your screen and choose your preferred language before we get started.



- If you encounter any technical difficulties, please use the chat box to get help.
- A recording of this webinar will be emailed to you along with the slide deck.
- If you have questions for the speakers, please enter those into the Q&A box and we'll get to those after our presentation.

Presenters



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Summer EBT


- Summer EBT (also known as SUN Bucks) is a new, permanent program that provides grocery benefits over the summer to eligible families with school-aged children.
- \$120 per child per summer on an electronic card to purchase food at grocery stores, farmers markets and online.
- Children can participate in Summer EBT and summer meals.

Participating Tribes/States/Territories

Select your tribe or location on the map to find out if SUN Bucks is available where you live and for more information on how to apply.

To operate the program an agency must have an approved plan.

 Participating.

 Plans to participate.

 Tribes within the state are participating.

 Not participating.

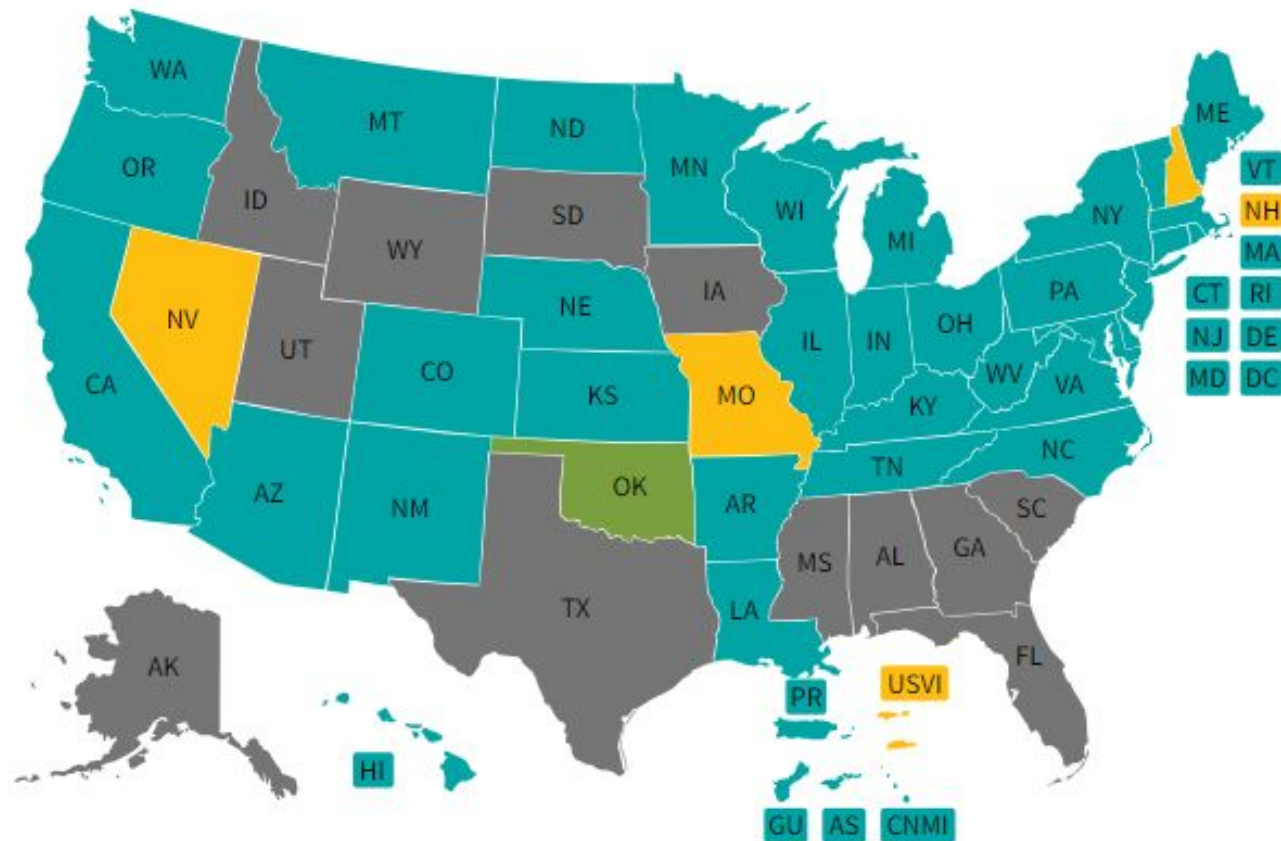
Cherokee Nation

(also serving Muscogee Nation)

Chickasaw Nation

(also serving Choctaw Nation, Muscogee Nation, and Seminole Nation)

[Skip Map](#)



Eligibility Basics

Many school-aged children will qualify and receive Summer EBT benefits automatically. Some families with eligible children need to apply.

Automatic:

- Approved for free or reduced price school meals by application or homeless/foster/migrant student

OR

- School-aged and in a household participating in benefit programs like SNAP

Apply:

- Won't receive automatically per pathway above
- Need to meet [income guidelines](#)
- Child must be enrolled at a school operating the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program

Compared to Pandemic EBT

- Permanent program
- Not all students in schools operating community eligibility provision (free school meals for all without application) are eligible/will get benefits automatically
- Very young children not eligible

Differences across States/Territories/Tribal Agencies

Not all states/territories/eligible Tribal agencies are operating Summer EBT in 2024:

- fns.usda.gov/summer/sunbucks or fns.usda.gov/es/summer/sunbucks

States/territories/Tribes are in different stages:

- Most states and territories are approved, some are still waiting for approval

Differences across States/Territories/Tribal Agencies

Key program details vary across states:

- School-age range different state to state - details here:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sebt/implementation>
- Programs considered for automatic issuance
- Application process looks different
- What card benefits are issued on and when benefits will be issued

Important to share information specific to your state/territory/Tribal agency

Example: Summer EBT Eligibility & Need to Apply in Michigan

Your child will get benefits automatically if they are:

- Approved for free or reduced price school meals because you applied through a school meals application (*any age*)
- *Homeless, runaway, migrant, or in foster care* and attending a school that participates in NSLP/SBP (*any age*)
- In a household that receives or that received at any time since July 2023 *FAP (SNAP/food stamps), TANF (cash assistance), FDPIR or Medicaid**, AND your child is between 6 to 18 at any point since July 2023.
 - Or, if attending a school that participates in NSLP/SBP, in a household that receives/received any of the above programs since July 2023 (*any age*)

**Children on Medicaid with a household income at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level are eligible. (see: bit.ly/summerebtincome)*

Some families eligible for Summer EBT need to apply. Families that won't receive benefits automatically and meet these criteria must apply:

- Enrolled at a school at any time since July 2023 that operates the NSLP or SBP programs AND the household income is at or below 185% of federal poverty level (see: bit.ly/summerebtincome)

How to Apply:

- *Contact your school to complete the School Meals and Summer EBT Application, or the Education Benefits Form (for CEP schools). Or, download paper application available online to submit via mail/email.*
- *Apply by August 31st for Summer 2024 benefits*

Summer EBT & Immigration Status

You do not need to be a U.S. citizen to qualify or apply for Summer EBT

- You do not need a Social Security Number to apply for Summer EBT

Applying for or receiving Summer EBT does not affect the immigration status of your child or family. It does not affect your ability to:

- Remain in the United States
- Get a Green Card/Permanent Legal Resident Status
- Keep a Green Card/Permanent Legal Status
- Become a U.S. Citizen

Public Charge and the Impact on Immigrant Families

- Families prioritize immigration status over basic needs, even if they need to make more sacrifices or endure hardships
- **87% of children of immigrants are U.S. citizens** with many of them qualifying for benefit programs.
- **3-4 million children** in mixed-status families avoided benefit programs in 2022 due to immigration concerns.



Words that work (High level)

- Food, shelter, and health care are basic human rights
- Every family needs help sometimes, especially now, and millions of families are using government programs

Key Messengers

- Immigration attorneys
- Government agencies
- People like themselves

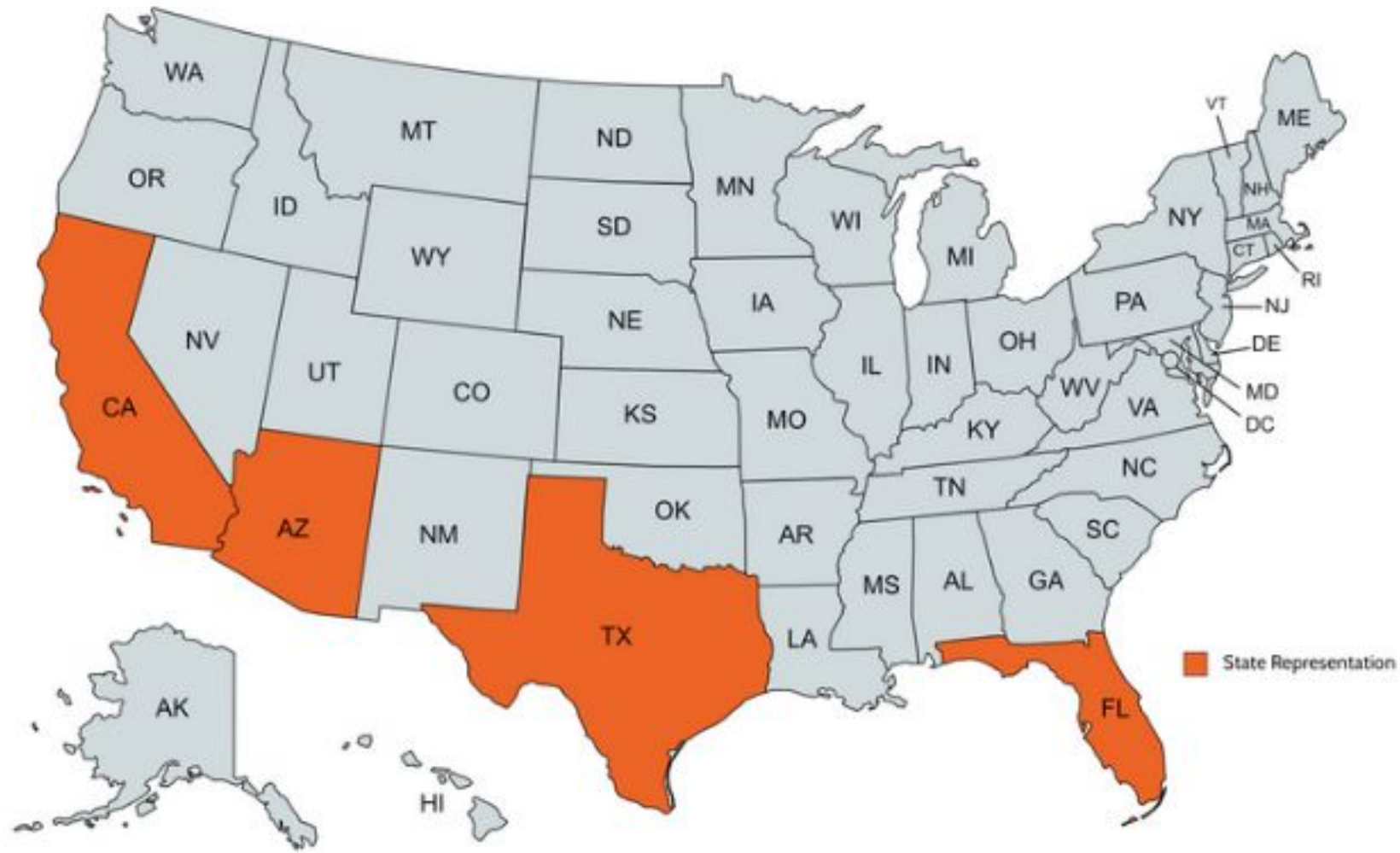


Summer EBT/SUN Bucks benefits **do not “count” toward public charge.**

Children are equally eligible, regardless of whether families need to apply or receive benefits automatically.



Strategies to move families from “Fear to Trust”



16 programs across 4 border states

Promising practices that the organizations use include:

- Ensuring low barriers to SNAP enrollment and food access and meeting community members where they are
- Offering stigma-free services
- Providing culturally responsive services and culturally relevant food
- Hiring and trusting community-embedded, bilingual staff and promotores/community health workers
- Showing up consistently



Supporting Families



Role of Community-based Organizations

Community-based organizations are trusted resources in communities across the country, and they play a vital role in distributing information to support families in accessing Summer EBT.



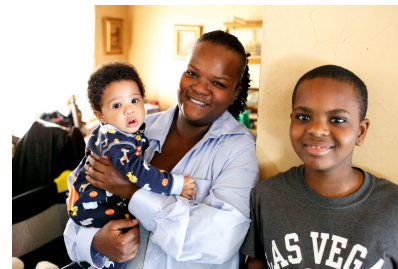
Community Centers



Food Banks



Clubs & Camps



Housing & Holistic Care

Role of Schools

From ensuring accurate data collection to supporting families in navigating the program, schools play an important role in helping families access Summer EBT benefits.



Administration



School Nutrition



Educators



Other family and student facing staff



What Families Need to Know

- New permanent program providing grocery benefits in the summer
- If they will receive the program automatically or if they need to apply and how
- Immigration status not considered for eligibility
- How to update their mailing address
- Generally when benefits will be issued and how
- Need to use benefits within four months

Questions & Concerns to Prepare For

Eligibility:

- Do I need to apply for Summer EBT? How do I know?
 - Does my child's school operate the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP)?
 - I **was** receiving SNAP earlier in the school year, but I am not right now. Do I need to apply?
- For families who do receive Summer EBT automatically:
 - Why did I receive this? (new card, or extra funds on existing card)
 - Could this affect my immigration status?
- For families who don't receive Summer EBT automatically:
 - I think I should have received Summer EBT already but I haven't. What should I do? Does this mean I am not eligible?
 - Are you sure I need to apply? Everyone I know got it automatically. I must not be eligible.

Questions & Concerns to Prepare For

Receiving & Using Benefits:

- I've moved – how can I update my mailing address?
- When will I get my Summer EBT benefits?
- How to replace a lost card (especially for states issuing on P-EBT cards)?
- Where and when can I use these Summer EBT benefits?
- What should I do with the card(s) I received benefits on this summer?

Troubleshooting:

- Where can I get help (problem with EBT card vs. other challenges)?

Getting Ready for Summer EBT: Your Next Steps

1. Know where to find more information on Summer EBT for your area
2. Know when benefits are being automatically issued in your area, and on which card(s), so you can prepare families.
3. Help families understand if they automatically qualify and don't need to do anything, or if they need to apply.
 - a. Once automatic issuance has happened, if a family didn't receive Summer EBT and they are within income guidelines → make sure they apply!
 - b. Know the application deadline for this summer.

Resources

- USDA family-facing information:
 - fns.usda.gov/summer/sunbucks
 - fns.usda.gov/es/summer/sunbucks
- No Kid Hungry family-facing information:
 - nokidhungry.org/benefits
 - nokidhungry.org/beneficios
- Information for organizations:
 - bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/programs/summer-ebt
 - [Summer EBT 101](#)
 - [Summer EBT FAQs: Helping Families Navigate Summer 2024](#)
 - Summer EBT for Community Advocates: state specific information (link forthcoming)
- Summer EBT PSAs from Latino Celebrities - please share!
 - Chef Lorena Garcia: Summer EBT PSA, English and Spanish - (16X9 and 9x16) All videos with captions: [HERE](#)
No Kid Hungry IG Post [HERE](#).
 - Eugenio Derbez: Summer EBT PSA, Spanish - (16X9 and 9x16) Videos with captions: [HERE](#)
- [Words that Work \(Effective Messaging\) Brief](#) and [Translated Effective Messages](#) (available in 8 languages) include messaging informed by research with people in immigrant families.
- ["From Fear to Trust" research report](#) uplifts the strategies of Latino-led and immigrant-serving organizations in four border states to rebuild trust and access federal nutrition programs.