

Supporting Schools for Summer EBT Success



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Agenda

- → Introduction
- → Remarks from Today's Speakers
- → Group Discussion
- **→** Q&A



Today's Speakers



Kat Soltanmorad, RDN Food and Nutrition Services Director, Tahoe Truckee Unified School District



Brigette Hires, PhD, RD Administrator, Office of Nutrition, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce



Mai Abdullah Executive Director, Refugees Helping Refugees



Regis Whaley
Senior Manager, Benefits Integration,
Center for Best Practices, Share Our
Strength

Summer EBT at School in 2024

"If you are a true bona fide school lunch lady that is what drives us. Most of the people that I
run with are on the same wavelength. We really
worry about them in out of school times. We do
everything we can to make sure those babies
are not forgotten."

On submitting data: "Big win to have state involved by providing DC [direct certification] list!"

Your top concern with the program?

"[Summer EBT] not continuing indefinitely!"

"[SUNBucks] was needed. I worry if it affected participation in grab and go sites, meal delivery. However, we still served record numbers [of meals] this past summer."



- Address persistent confusion among those who need to apply and those who received Summer EBT automatically.
- Schools have insight into specific populations that faced barriers to accessing Summer EBT in 2024. Leverage schools' insight and relationships to connect these families.
- Coordinate communication between multiple agencies and schools: "We are here to help, but we want to make sure we have the right information to help."
- Connect families to accessible applications in and outside of schools.
- Ensure as many eligible children are streamline certified as possible.



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Kat Soltanmorad, RDN

Food and Nutrition Services Director,
Tahoe Truckee Unified School District



PATHWAYS TO POSSIBILITIES AND STUDENT SUCCESS



SUMMER ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER

Summer 2024 Ohio Overview

BRIGETTE HIRES

Administrator

Office of Nutrition

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

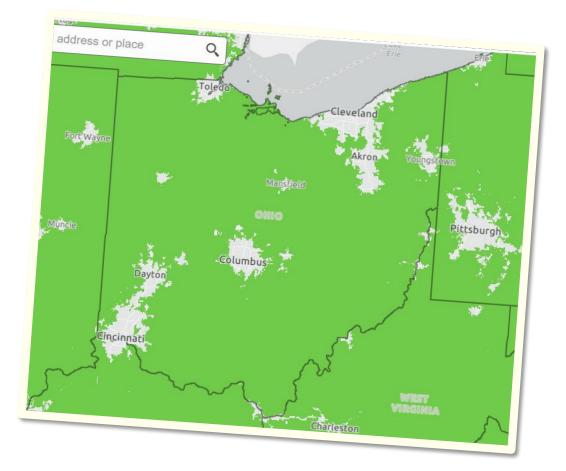
December 9, 2024





OHIO OVERVIEW

- In October 2023, 1,754,365 enrolled students with access to the National School Lunch Program
- 1160 School Food Authorities and 3557 sites
- Estimated 840,000 recipients of Summer EBT
- School Year 2024 was first year of the Medicaid pilot



USDA Rural Designation Map of Ohio



SUMMER EBT DISTRIBUTION

- August 16 was the summer operational period end date
- First distribution in late July
- 1.2 million Ohio children received Summer EBT
 - 45% from SNAP
 - 32% from Medicaid
 - 23% from school eligibility
- Benefits issued to SNAP cards and then individually by child
- As of late October, \$115,633,185redeemed



SUMMER 2025 UPDATES

- Distribution planned for mid May
- Triaging for addresses to county agencies
- Revisiting AG Misfortune process
- Discussing receiving a foster children file
- Reviewing the hierarchy order of data for birthdate and address





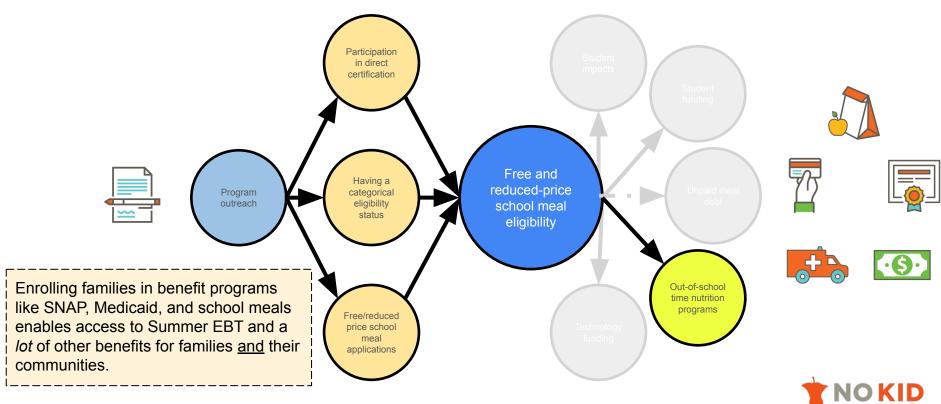
Mai Abdullah Executive Director, Refugees Helping Refugees



Refugees Helping Refugees (RHR) is a non-profit organization in Rochester, NY that serves refugees of Western New York. RHR seeks to foster the growth, self-determination, and self-reliance of Rochester's refugee community by making them agents of their own advancement.

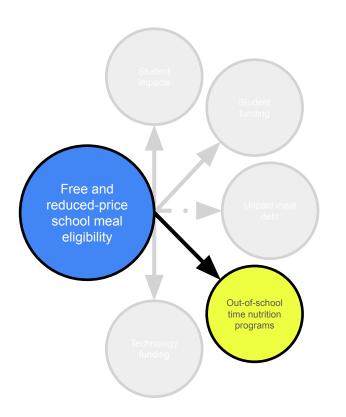


PUBLIC BENEFITS ACCESS CASCADE



Summer Nutrition Summit 2024

PUBLIC BENEFITS ACCESS CASCADE



The **Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)** program provides grocery benefits for eligible children. Households with children determined eligible for free or reduced-price school meals should receive benefits automatically while other income-eligible households must apply to receive benefits.

The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**, which provides meals for children during the summer months, can use free/reduced-price school meal eligibility to establish **area eligibility** for meal sites.

Key questions to consider:

- Who can benefit from increased program participation?
- Who can help schools with program outreach?
- How will you measure success?



Summer Nutrition Summit 2024

Discussion

Q&A is next!
Please jot down your questions.



Thank you for joining us today!

Interested in continuing the conversation?



